FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 047 11 March 1987

ARGENTINA

$500 Million Bridge Loan Received 9 Mar	B 1
Report on New York Debt Renegotiation Talks	B 1
International Support for Economic Program Noted [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 10 Mar]	B 2
Secretary Mosso Views Pro-Army Pamphlet Bomb [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 6 Mar]	B 2
Interior Minister Denies 'Terrorist Outbreak'	B 3
CGT To Lodge Complaint With ILO 12 Mar	B 3
Labor Minister Comments	B 4
PCA's Fava Discusses Gorbachev Meeting in Moscow	B 4
Saadi To Remain Justicialist Party Council Head [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 6 Mar]	B 4
Briefs: Foreign Ministry Officials Named; Agreement Signed With Mexico; Cost of Living Rises	B 5

BOLIVIA

Chamber of Deputies Censures Economic Team [AFP]	C 1
Presidential Secretary Comments [AFP]	C 1
Cabinet Resigns 10 Mar [AFP]	C 2

CHILE

Msgr Camus Explains 'Dissident' Position [EL MERCURIO 8 Mar]	E 1
Ministers Criticize Comments by Msgr Camus	E 4
Foreign Minister Del Valle	E 4
Interior Minister Garcia	E 5
Justice Minister Rosende	E 6
CNI Rejects Bishops' Letter on Camus' Nieces	E 7
Bishop Worried by Pinochet Response to Letter [EFE]	E 8
Carabineros Disperse Women's Day Demonstration	E 8
Police Arrest 50	E 9
Bomb Explosion Causes Damage at Soda Fountain	E 9

PERU

Mirage Fighter Crashes in Chiclayo 9 Mar [AFP]	J 1
Central Bank Releases Current Economic Data [AFP]	J 1
Briefs: New Television Station; Population Census Report	J 1

MEXICO

De la Madrid, Arias Release Joint Communique M 1
[EL NACIONAL 1 Mar]
Guatemalan Official Invites Refugees To Return M 6
De la Madrid Gives Award to Uruguay's Iglesias M 6
Banxico Reports Inflation Index Increases M 6

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Nicaraguans Deported to Unspecified Nation P 1
[LA REPUBLICA 3 Mar]

EL SALVADOR

Venceremos: Plane Downed in Honduras Salvadoran P 1
Foreign Ministry Analyzes Goal of Peace P 2
[EL MUNDO 8 Mar]
Gen Blandon Discusses Military Operations P 3
Venceremos Counters Blandon P 4
Venceremos Criticizes Priest's Homily on Refugees P 5

GUATEMALA

Cerezo Talks to Nation About S. American Trip P 5

HONDURAS

Armed Forces Issue Communique on Downed Plane P 10
Drug Trafficker Possibly Aboard P 11
Shooting Reported at Nicaraguan Border P 11
Armed Forces Report Attacks P 11
[LA TRIBUNA 10 Mar]
Residents Report Attacks P 12
Government Denies Attacks P 12
U.S. 'Leftist Spies' Arrested at El Aguacate P 13
Army Arrests KISAN Leaders Herman, Artola P 13
[TIEMPO 10 Mar]

NICARAGUA

Ownership of Plane Downed in Honduras Denied P 14
FDN Denies Ownership [DPA] P 14
UNO Ownership Denied P 15
Analysts Cited on Downing P 15
Honduran Communique Cited P 15
Government Protests Honduran Army 'Attack' P 16
2,000 People Evacuated [AFP] P 17
Officials Justify Police Action During Protest P 18
Cruz on Reasons for Leaving UNO Directorate P 18
UNO Postpones Dissoluton of Coalition [AFP] P 19

Contras Claim 5 Downed Helicopters in 8 Months P 20
[DPA]
Claim EPS Casualties P 21
[San Jose LA REPUBLICA 4 Mar]
Fernando Cardenal Interviewed by GDR Journalist P 21
[East Berlin NEUE ZEIT 5 Mar]

CUBA

Attempted Airplane Hijacking to U.S. Thwarted Q 1
Government 'Confident' on Human Rights Resolution Q 1
Commentators Say Human Rights 'Violated' in U.S. Q 2
Malmierca Gives Castro Greetings to Guyana's Hoyte Q 4
Uruguayan Delegation Signs Trade Memorandum Q 4
Ghanaian Independence Anniversary Commemorated Q 5
PCC Approves National Nutrition Program Q 5
'Severe' Drought Continues in Camaguey Province Q 5

CARIBBEAN

ST LUCIA

Trade Unions Give Ultimatum to Government S 1

GUYANA

Further Reportage on Nonaligned Meeting T 1
Iran, Cuba Leaders Meet [Tehran] T 1
Hoyte Opens Conference 10 Mar T 1
Further on Conference Opening [EFE] T 2

SURINAME

Agreement on Education Signed With USSR U 1
Heidweiler Seeks Talks With Netherlands Minister U 1
[Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD 6 Mar]
'More Radical Figures' Could Fill Cabinet Posts U 2
[Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD 3 Mar]
Suralco Restores Energy Supply From Afobaka U 2

$500-MILLION BRIDGE LOAN RECEIVED 9 MAR

PY101238 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0120 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- The Economy Ministry tonight reported that today the country received the $500-million bridge loan granted to Argentina by 13 industrialized countries.

The loan will be financed with the resources the IMF will pay to the country to compensate for the fall in its export revenue. The IMF will grant these resources some time before 15 July 1987.

The bridge loan has been granted in two parts: The U.S. Treasury Department has put up $225 million at an interest rate equivalent to the rate produced by 90-day treasury bonds, with no surcharge attached; and by the International Readjustments Bank, which represents the Central Bank of the other 12 countries, for $275 million at the Libor rate with a 0.75 percent surcharge.

In addition to the United States, the following countries participated in the loan: Japan, Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, and the FRG.

The loan, which was announced on 26 February, will be used to finance our country's short term foreign debt.

Together with its loan, the U.S. Treasury Department issued a communique stating that it supports the new stage of Argentina's economic policy, which was implemented on that date.

REPORT ON NEW YORK DEBT RENEGOTIATION TALKS

PY101526 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0057 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine delegation discussing the foreign debt payment conditions in New York has proposed establishing a 15-year payment terms plus a 5-year grace period for past debts.

The Argentine proposal has been submitted by Central Bank director Daniel Marx and Internal and Foreign Debt Under Secretary Jorge Gonzalez. The proposal also includes a reflexibilization of the "on-lending" [preceding two words in English] loan system and of the debt capitalization system.

The foreign banks allegedly agree with these two Argentine proposals, although they have "seriously criticized" the spread [preceding word in English] proposed by Argentina: 0.60 points over the London market Libor rate which is an annual 6.5 percent.

The debt capitalization issue includes several controversial aspects on which Argentina insists, such as the elimination of the "one for one" clause -- that is, for each capitalized dollar, one must be invested. Argentina also insists in a maximum liberalization of the economic system, allowing for the purchase of companies already working in the country.

Regarding the "on-lending" clause, the foreign banks have proposed complying with what was established in the last agreement: handing out a total of about $1.5 billion in new money.

$500-MILLION BRIDGE LOAN RECEIVED 9 MAR

PY101238 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0120 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- The Economy Ministry tonight reported that today the country received the $500-million bridge loan granted to Argentina by 13 industrialized countries.

The loan will be financed with the resources the IMF will pay to the country to compensate for the fall in its export revenue. The IMF will grant these resources some time before 15 July 1987.

The bridge loan has been granted in two parts: The U.S. Treasury Department has put up $225 million at an interest rate equivalent to the rate produced by 90-day treasury bonds, with no surcharge attached; and by the International Readjustments Bank, which represents the Central Bank of the other 12 countries, for $275 million at the Libor rate with a 0.75 percent surcharge.

In addition to the United States, the following countries participated in the loan: Japan, Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, and the FRG.

The loan, which was announced on 26 February, will be used to finance our country's short term foreign debt.

Together with its loan, the U.S. Treasury Department issued a communique stating that it supports the new stage of Argentina's economic policy, which was implemented on that date.

REPORT ON NEW YORK DEBT RENEGOTIATION TALKS

PY101526 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0057 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine delegation discussing the foreign debt payment conditions in New York has proposed establishing a 15-year payment terms plus a 5-year grace period for past debts.

The Argentine proposal has been submitted by Central Bank director Daniel Marx and Internal and Foreign Debt Under Secretary Jorge Gonzalez. The proposal also includes a reflexibilization of the "on-lending" [preceding two words in English] loan system and of the debt capitalization system.

The foreign banks allegedly agree with these two Argentine proposals, although they have "seriously criticized" the spread [preceding word in English] proposed by Argentina: 0.60 points over the London market Libor rate which is an annual 6.5 percent.

The debt capitalization issue includes several controversial aspects on which Argentina insists, such as the elimination of the "one for one" clause -- that is, for each capitalized dollar, one must be invested. Argentina also insists in a maximum liberalization of the economic system, allowing for the purchase of companies already working in the country.

Regarding the "on-lending" clause, the foreign banks have proposed complying with what was established in the last agreement: handing out a total of about $1.5 billion in new money.

According to Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn, next 15 July is the deadline for receiving from the IMF $482 million as a compensation for the drop of income from exports.

Negotiations between the two parties are being carried out carefully due to the long, complex agreements, and of the relative slowness of the foreign banks which do not wish to hurry in concluding negotiations for fear of being seen to be weak following the moratorium declared by Brazil.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAM NOTED

PY110121 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] (NA-DYN) Official financial institutions of Israel, Italy and Spain expressed their willingness to support Argentina's economic programme and particularly the country's holding company of state enterprises, Holding Director Enrique Olivera announced.

Olivera, together with Public Works Minister Pedro Trucco, met yesterday with President Raul Alfonsin to inform him about their recent trip to Europe and Israel.

"Both in Spain and in Italy we found an eagerness to support our economic programme, and particularly the holding plan -- to improve public services and diminish the impact of these companies on the fiscal deficit," Olivera pointed out.

He also mentioned visiting the countries' most important corporations, seeing "different methods to incorporate private capital into public corporations." Olivera also said that he met with the president of Italy's Institute for Industrial Reconstruction, Romano Prodi, with whom he discussed criteria for organizing state holding companies.

When asked about the Austral Plan and the holding company's projects, Olivera said the recent readjustments are "stimuli to increase productivity in state enterprises, and bring back to Argentine society the quality of service it deserves."

SECRETARY MOSSO VIEWS PRO-ARMY PAMPHLET BOMB

PY062119 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- A bomb designed to scatter pamphlets went off yesterday in front of the Army High Command in what Defense Secretary Alfredo Mosso considered an "isolated case" of military opposition to human rights trials.

Mosso said the bomb was planted by "groups which aim to show a grim picture of the Armed Forces," while Army Chief-of-Staff Hector Rios Erenu referred to the "intellectual mediocrity" of the incident and the "spiritual poverty" it reflects.

The pamphlets carried diverse and unconnected sentences such as "No surrender," "We fight for our comrades" or "The Army was born in 1810 and we won't let it die in 1987."

Mosso denied the incident was part of an orchestrated plan and regarded the situation as "completely under the control of the Army."

Mosso admitted that similar incidents might occur in the upcoming weeks but ruled out the possibility that they might become generalized.

Mosso also denied that Navy Chief-of-Staff Ramon Arosa had requested his leave in answer to criticisms by high-ranking naval officers.

A similar unsigned statement referring to the current human rights trials was found in the streets of Cordoba warning that Argentine society was being "injected with the poison of ingratitude and injustice."

INTERIOR MINISTER DENIES 'TERRORIST OUTBREAK'

PY072202 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2000 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Mendoza, 7 Mar (NA) -- Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli today ruled out the possibility of an outbreak of subversion in Argentina, and made it clear that the government is "very much on the alert" and "prepared to use every legal means at its disposal to prevent" any action of this kind.

Thus, Troccoli refuted the statement of former La Plata Archbishop Antonio Plaza on the existence of a terrorist outbreak. Troccoli said that Plaza "is an old man out of touch with reality."

In a news conference Troccoli held in Mendoza, he emphasizess that "the story about the subversion outbreak is a tool of those who want to spread concern among the Argentine society."

Troccoli is paying a 2-day visit to Mendoza, where he will represent President Alfonsin at the grape harvest festival that will end tomorrow with a parade of floats and the selection of a grape harvest beauty queen at the local amphitheater at the foot of La Gloria Hill.

The minister said that the government is "very much on the alert" and "is keeping an eye on the subversion issue because we are prepared to use every legal means at our disposal to prevent" any action of this kind. However, he added that "there are no terrorist camps or preparations in the country that would lead one to fear the possibility of an outbreak of subversion. On the other hand, there is a radicalization of political belief, although it has not led to any actions." [passage omitted]

The minister also said that the attack on Colonel Osvaldo Perez Battaglia, retired, who was shot 2 days before he was due to testify in court in connection with a case of human rights violation case, had been a "common crime." [passage omitted]

CGT TO LODGE COMPLAINT WITH ILO 12 MAR

PY101240 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2246 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- This afternoon the Executive Board of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] approved the text of a complaint that will be submitted to ILO. The complaint denounces the non-compliance of International Agreements 87 and 98 (freedom of association and collective wage bargaining).

This was stated by Saul Ubaldini when he released a CGT communique which indicates that the complaint will be submitted to the ILO offices on 12 March. [passage omitted]

Labor Minister Comments

PY101412 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1341 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (TELAM) -- In view of the announcement made by the General Labor Confederation (CGT) which states that it will submit a complaint about the lack of union freedom to the ILO, Labor Minister Hugo Barrionuevo today stressed that the executive branch is complying fully with the labor agreements it has signed.

Barrionuevo spoke to the press at Government House, where he participated in a Cabinet plenum.

PCA'S FAVA DISCUSSES GORBACHEV MEETING IN MOSCOW

PY061355 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2246 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (DYN) -- Athos Fava, secretary general of the Argentine Communist Party [PCA], stated today that "the great (economic) corporations set the policy for the Radical Civic Union, the (Peronist) renewal faction, and the Armed Forces." He added that the bourgeoisie, as a class, has exhausted its potential to promote national liberation."

Fava made these remarks during a news conference during which he gave details of the recent meeting held in Moscow between the PCA delegation and CPSU Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev.

Fava stated that during the meeting Gorbachev made no comment on the PCA's change in policy. Fava categorically denied that the cases of Rubens Iscaro and Oscar Arevalo were discussed at that meeting. After a lengthy participation as militants within the PCA, Iscaro and Arevalo have been removed from the party because of their disagreement with the new guidelines imposed during the 16th PCA Congress.

Fava stated: "The private problems of each party are solved by that party." He added that Gorbachev "did not judge the policy of our party, not the government of Dr (Ravl) Alfonsin."

Although he criticized the main Argentine political parties, Fava stated that "it is essential to expand the scope of the bourgeois democracy to achieve national liberation."

Regarding the meeting with Gorbachev, the PCA leader, who was accompanied by Patricio Echegaray and Francisco Alvarez, stated that "it has marked the beginning of a new period based on mutual respect, total frankness, and independence of ideas" between the two parties.

SAADI TO REMAIN JUSTICIALIST PARTY COUNCIL HEAD

PY062114 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 11

[Text] Buenos Aires province Justicialist Party President Antonio Cafiero yesterday said the Renewal Peronist sector will not attempt to change the National Party Council headed by Vicente Saadi before the congressional and gubernatorial elections scheduled for September 6.

Cafiero revealed the decision was taken by the Renewal Peronist leadership to avoid legal complications and strengthen party unity. But he added the decision did not entail siding with the Orthodox party sector on an ideological or political basis.

Renewal Peronist leaders Carlos Grosso and Carlos Menem nevertheless agreed on the need to restructure the party leadership with the participation of all district presidents.

The National Justicialist Council and the Renewal Peronist sector meanwhile opposed Senator Luis Salim's (Santiago del Estero) call for a meeting of the Justicialist Party Congress.

Federal Judge Nestor Blondi yesterday denied congress delegates an official authorization needed to obtain free transportation for their meeting Saturday.

Blondi thus reviewed his previous decision to grant the authorization after Justicialist trustee Manuel Tercera del Franco appealed the ruling of the fact that the request violated party statutes.

Salim later offered a press conference during which he denied the Congress meeting was in any way connected to deputy Herminio Iglesias.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS NAMED -- Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (DYN) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today installed 12 new directors in the Foreign Ministry. They are: Alberto Ferrari Etcheverry, chief of Cabinet; Nicolas Adrian Sonschein, national director of protocol; Eduardo Manzella, general director of personnel; Lillian O'Connel de Alurralde, director of foreign service; Agustin A. Medina Munoz, director of international organizations; Carlos Keller Sarmiento, director of the North America Department; Ruben Vela, director of the Africa and Middle East Department; Ricardo Antonio Elizondo, director of the Asia Department; Roberto Dellepiane Rawson, director of the Western Europe Department; Julio Freixas, director of information and communications; Enrique Rubio, director of the Eastern Europe Department; Mario Sabato, director of cultural affairs; Ramon Villagra Delgado, director of the Central America and Caribbean Department; and Noemi Gomez, director of the Nonaligned Department. [Text] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2202 GMT 5 Mar 87 PY]

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH MEXICO -- Argentina and Mexico have signed a bilateral agreement through which Mexico will increase the purchase of Argentine products such as grains and books while Argentina will increase its purchase of Mexican products such as petrochemical products, minerals, typewriters, and materials to handle statistics. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Mar 87 PY]

COST OF LIVING RISES -- Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (DYN) -- The cost of living rose 6.5 percent at retail level last month, the National Institute for Statistics and Census (INDEC) announced yesterday. Wholesale prices rose 6.9 percent in February and the cost of construction five percent, INDEC said. Inflation over the last 12 months is thus 98.9 percent at retail level and 76.5 percent at wholesale level while the cost of construction has risen 96.8 percent in the last year. The cost of living has risen by 14.6 percent since January. [passage omitted] [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 1 PY]

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES CENSURES ECONOMIC TEAM

PY102052 Paris AFP in Spanish 1314 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] La Paz, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Members of President Victor Paz Estenssoro's economic team, comprised of six ministers, were censured this morning by the Chamber of Deputies. According to congressional tradition the ministers will have to resign as a result of the lack of confidence of the legislative branch.

The vote in the Chamber of Deputies was 66 for censure and 1 abstention. The 53 deputies of the official party, the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR), left the Chamber in an effort to prevent a quorum.

The issue that has been under debate in the Chamber of Deputies since last February was whether or not to grant the oil-producing departments royalties for oil production of the last few years. The government says it is impossible to hand over oil royalties to the oil producing departments, but congressmen wanted to pass the bill on this matter.

The Department of Chuquisaca, Tarija, and Santa Cruz in southeastern Bolivia, which are demanding royalties payment, asked their congressmen, even the one who belongs to the official bloc, to vote for the department's rights.

The censured ministers are Finance Minister Juan Cariaga, Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez, Energy and Hydrocarbon Minister Carlos Morales, Industry and Commerce Minister Fernando Moscoso, Transportation Minister Andres Petricevic, and Mining Minister Juan Villalobos.

According to congressional sources, this is the first time since 6 August 1985 that the Chamber of Deputies has taken a position against the government because the so-called Pact for Democracy, comprised of the MNR and the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN) of Hugo Banzer, did not vote as a bloc.

MNR Deputy Alvaro Perez del Castillo told AFP at the conclusion of the voting that his party is going to review its position regarding its political alliance with the ADN and that it will seek new pacts to defend democracy.

Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez, mastermind of the current economic policies, was upset, and shortly before the vote met with the deputies of his party to get support for the government policies, but the result was negative.

A few days before the congressional questioning of the economic team, Sanchez said he would leave the government if the legislative branch voted against controlling expenditures, a policy needed to ensure the validity of the economic model.

Presidential Secretary Comments

PY102102 Paris AFP in Spanish 1744 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Bolivian Presidential Secretary Walter Zuleta said today in La Paz that the members of President Victor Paz Estenssoro's economic team will not resign en masse in response to the censure the Chamber of Deputies issued against them early today.

According to congressional tradition, the six censured ministers must resign because the legislative branch lacks confidence in them. Sixty-six members of the Chamber of Deputies voted for censure, and 55 members of the ruling Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR) voted against it before abandoning the Congress floor.

Other sources told AFP that the economic team is holding a meeting in the interior minister's office to discuss the situation and the possibility of submitting a collective resignation to the president.

It has been reported that the censure may seriously weaken the so-called Pact for Democracy, which was signed by the MNR and the conservative Nationalist Democratic Action, whose members voted with the opposition bloc on this issue.

Cabinet Resigns 10 Mar

PY102129 Paris AFP in Spanish 1751 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Information Minister Herman Antelo announced here today that the Cabinet has submitted its resignation to President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

Minutes before, Presidential Secretary Walter Zuleta had denied rumors of a Cabinet resignation.

The Cabinet tendered its resignation in response to the censure the Chamber of Deputies issued early today aginst the economic team, in view of the government's refusal to pay oil royalties to Bolivian oil-producing departments -- Santa Cruz, Tarija, and Chuquisaca -- known as Bolivia's OPEC.

According to sources close to Government House, since the Cabinet was sworn in just 15 days ago, any Cabinet shuffle could constitute a serious threat to the democratic process.

In view of this, the president must decide whether to confirm his immediate advisers, which would result in further confrontations with the oil-producing departments; or change his Cabinet, which would weaken the authority he has exerted throughout his nearly 2-year administration.

The other serious problem the president faces is that the institutional crisis has been undermining the so-called Pact for Democracy, which was signed between the ruling Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR) and the conservative Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), headed by General Hugo Banzer Suarez.

This pact has enabled the president to govern the country with a comfortable majority, and this may not be the case in the future.

The members of the economic team are Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez Lozada; Finance Minister Juan Cariaga; Energy Minister Carlos Morales; Industry Minister Fernando Moscoso; Transportation Minister Andres Petricevic; and Mining Minister Jaime Villalobos.

Opposition sectors charge tha the majority of the economic team represent the most influential Bolivian private economic sectors.

MSGR CAMUS EXPLAINS 'DISSIDENT' POSITION

PY101940 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 8 Mar 87 pp D2, D3

["Text" of interview with the bishop of Linares, Msgr Carlos Camus Larenas, by EL MERCURIO reporter Raquel Correa in Santiago -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Correa] In your view, did differences between the church and the government exist from the beginning?

[Camus] Almost from the beginning. The coup occurred on 11 September, and the bishops released their first statement on 13 September. They asked that the defeated be respected, that the memory of Allende be respected, that the gains made by the workers be respected, that hatred and revanchism be forgotten. This sat very badly with the government. I wrote a booklet on church-governmnet relations, describing what happened at that time. [passage omitted]

[Correa] Are you not afraid of the risk of a communist dictatorship?

[Camus] Of course I am. And I believe that we are heading that way fast. When things are polarized and when the Christian ideal is associated with a dictatorship, with so many outrages, and when the proposition is "for us or against us," anyone who is discontented is pushed to the other extreme.

[Correa] Do you view the dictatorship as being associated with Christianity? Is that what you said?

[Camus] The young people see that a government that calls itself humanist and Christian and that presents itself as Catholic, as do its supporters, commits serious errors that they they deplore. Because the government poses a "for-us-or-against-us" dilemma, the youths react, going against it as much as possible. They go to the left, and the Communist Party welcomes them, treats them well -- the Communist Party is busy canvassing for prospecting supporters -- it gives them books, it invites them....

[Correa] And the church, Monsignor, is it blocking that advance or facilitating it?

[Camus] I believe that the church is suffering....

[Correa] I am referring to many priests who work in poor neighborhoods....

[Camus] They do what they can.

[Correa] In favor of the process of conversion to Marxism?

[Camus] No. They are doing what they can to win the youths over. Today, we have many youths professing the Marxist ideology, but keeping their faith. This seems impossible because Marxism is atheistic. But Marxsm is one thing, and people are something else. [passage omitted]

[Correa] Monsignor, do you consider yourself an outright opponent of the government?

[Camus] I do not like the word "opponent," because it gives the impression that one takes the wrong side.

[Correa] What word do you prefer?

[Camus] Dissident. I am a dissident. I am a critic from the moral standpoint. It seems to me that the government has opted for immorality, although it may have good intentions. To turn Chile into a great nation seems a very good intention, but this is a dream, a utopian dream, which they try to impose by force. [passage omitted]

[Correa] Some people support the government "because it saved the country from communism"....

[Camus] First, that's a fallacy: It did not save the country, it endangered the country more than ever. Second, the mission should be much more than that. I agree that some people are governed by fear, that some people want to have tranquillity. They do not want to complicate their lives. But responsible people cannot have such a simplistic attitude.

[Correa] What do you think would happen in the country if this government were to end now? Do you belive that the country is in the position to have a normal social coexistence?

[Camus] I believe that the damage that has been done is great, but the damage being done every day is greater. It is like the case of Rinihue, where a canal had to be dug no matter what damage was done in the process. On the contrary, not digging the canal would have caused great damage. An immense error has been committed. After the Popular Unity experience, there was a marvelous opportunity to correct mistakes and to thoughtfully return to a patriotic, balanced, forward-looking, and just government.

[Correa] Were you a Popular dissident?

[Camus] I was not a supporter of the Popular Unity.

[Correa] If we could turn back the calendar to early September 1973....

[Camus] I would commit the same mistake.

[Correa] And with the experience you have now, would you commit it again?

[Camus] No.

[Correa] Would you have preferred that the Popular Unity remain in power?

[Camus] Yes, yes. In the first place, because the Popular Unity never committed anywhere near the number of crimes that have been committed now.... The Group of Personal Friends of those days were first communion children, compared to the current gorillas.

[Correa] Would an election have been held in 1976?

[Camus] Very likely the economic crisis would have forced the government to hold a plebiscite and to change its course, but in a more democratic way. I believe that Allende was a Democrat; he had a democratic upbringing.

[Correa] Do you believe that this government is a minority government?

[Camus] No doubt it is a minority at this time. [passage omitted]

[Correa] What importance or seriousness do you attach to the finding of the arsenals? Or didn't you believe it?

[Camus] I did not believe it at first. Finally I believed it in part. And look, I did not attach much importance to it, because if it was an adventure of terrorist groups, it was foolhardly to confront an army as disciplined as the Chilean Army. It was something for children. It could at no time have brought about a civil war. Furthermore, our territory does not have forests or woods, where guerrillas can entrench themselves. But I cannot imagine all those tons of armaments being brought on rafts without being seen.

[Correa] And the attack against Pinochet and his escorts?

[Camus] I did not believe it either. Do you know what they are calling the place where it happened? The "It-Is-Hard-To-Believe Slope" ["Cuesta Creerlo," a play on the word "cuesta" which means both "it is hard to" and "slope" in Spanish]

[Correa] Monsignor, don't you believe it? Do you believe that five escorts were sacrificed....?

[Camus] No, no. I believe that the attempt was made. The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front admitted it. Moreover, from the military standpoint, it was a success, that such an attack could be made despite so much security.

[Correa] What punishment do you believe those who committed five assassinations deserve?

[Camus] Your question is difficult.... From the legal or moral point of view?

[Correa] You choose.

[Camus] I would say that from a moral point of view, they are not so guilty.

[Correa] How, Monsignor!

[Camus] A war had been declared on them, and they waged their war....

[Correa] Would your judgement be that lenient with the cutthroats? [a reference to those who murdered communists Nattino, Herrero, and Parada in March 1986]

[Camus] Obviously not.

[Correa] Why not, Monsignor? Why so much clemency for some assassions and so little for other assassins?

[Camus] Killing in a war where people kill and die is different from killing or torturing a defenseless prisoner.

[Correa] The motorcade guarding Pinochet was not on the battlefield, Monsignor.

[Camus] But the president had said that he was at war with Marxism and the members of the motorcade were armed. The attackers took a big risk. I believe that whenever this case is studied as a war episode, the attackers might become heroes. They risked their lives... but I can't see heroism in a torturer who faces a person who was tied up and armed.

[Correa] But you do see heroism in the attackers....

[Camus] Yes. This must be recognized. [passage ommitted]

[Correa] Monsignor, under the initials C.B. someone said in LA NACION of 13 January that you are paranoid, because of the catastrophic predictions you made in your latest pastoral letter.

[Camus] I believe that paranoia can be found somewhere else, that there are many paranoid people who must be examined. Some of them are paranoid as a result of this system. Hitler was said to have been paranoid because of his megalomania. I am not a megalomaniac.... I want to add that behind that family experience [a reference to the arrest of Monsignor Camus' niece Paola Camus] there was something very positive: The assertion of the power of prayer. A lot of people call me to tell me that they are praying for me. The suffering has brought my own relatives closer to God. The solidarity shown has been beautiful. My sister and her husband could see that they have many friends. Even people who do not sympathize with my opinions -- or at least with the way my opinions have been presented -- have in the face of what has happened, said: No, this is enough.

MINISTERS CRITICIZE COMMENTS BY MSGR CAMUS

Foreign Minister Del Valle

PY102117 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle has informed Papal Nuncio Msgr Angelo Solano of the Chilean Government's repudiation of the unusual comments made by Msgr Carlos Camus, bishop of Linares.

Del Valle said that government officials are studying the background of the case to officially express, in the next few hours, their concern and discomfort. Regarding rumors that the foreign minister will go to Rome to convey the Chilean Government's displeasure, Del Valle denied them, saying that they are only rumors.

[Begin Del Valle recording] I think that much has been said regarding this subject. For the time being, we have informed the nuncio of the serious discomfort and concern by the government, and particularly by his excellency, the president of the Republic. These talks are not over, they will continue, and there will be more news in the future. [end recording]

The minister reported that today he will travel to Montevideo to participate in the ALADI foreign ministers meeting. He said that upon his return, the meetings with the papal nuncio will continue. He said that the government is studying the possibility of requesting that church authorities take measures regarding Bishop Camus. Del Valle said that the papal nuncio had received him favorably and had listened attentively.

[Begin Del Valle recording] I believe that the nuncio listened carefully to what we told him. I believe he understood what we said; so at the right moment, he will probably adopt the appropriate measures for the case. [end recording]

Afterward, the foreign minister said that at no time were Msgr Camus' comments linked to the upcoming visit of Pope John Paul II. [passage omitted]

[Begin Del Valle recording] Msgr Camus' comments are not connected with the pope's visit. The two are not linked at all. The pope's visit is far more important than what Msgr Camus said.

Do not try to connect one thing with the other because we will never accept this, and we are sure that the Holy See will never link the two. Any attempt to hinder in any way the preparations being made by the church and especially by the government -- as it is my duty to specify -- for the pope's visit, would constitute a groundless, wild attack. [end recording]

Foreign Minister del Valle also spoke about the interview he held with U.S. Ambassador of Chile Harry Barnes. He said that they discussed three subjects: First, the civil lawsuit against our government regarding the case of Rodrigo Rojas; second, the proceedings of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva; and third, the statements made by Armando Fernandez Larios.

Interior Minister Garcia

PY102039 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia has said that Bishop Camus' statements published in EL MERCURIO are unacceptable, especially when he speaks of terrorism and calls such actions heroic.

The interior minister remarked on the negative impression given by Camus' comments. Camus does not believe in anything, he does not believe in attacks, in the importance of the arms caches, in institutional progress, in the electoral register lists, in the political parties law, or anything.

I think his attitude of disbelief is not constructive for the country, Garcia said.

The interior minister said that Camus' comments are an offense to everyone who works honestly and legally to comply with his duty as established by the Constitution. Our honest work is disqualified by his comments when he says he does not believe in anything that is being done.

[Begin Garcia recording] [words indistinct] finally, I want to be clear about this: Bishop Camus' words cannot, under any circumstance, be interpreted as a constitutional conflict. His comments are those of an individual who, we believe, has inaccurate concepts which we cannot share. Under no circumstances does this reflect a conflict between institutions. The institutions have not been affected. The comments were made by an individual who has [word indistinct] us to this apparent confusion. Therefore it is convenient to correct and put each thing in its place. [end recording]

The interior minister said that he did not contact the nunciature since this corresponds to the Foreign Ministry.

Justice Minister Rosende

PY102013 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Mar 87

["Text" of Justice Minister Hugo Rosende's speech over a nation-wide radio network replying to remarks made by the Bishop of Linares, Msgr Carlos Camus who has criticized the government -- 9 March in Santiago]

[Text] At a time when we Chileans have been invited to prepare ourselves for meditation and concord prior to the visit of the messenger of peace, we are stunned by the unbelievable statement made by the Bishop of Linares in an interview granted to the newspaper EL MERCURIO, which was published yesterday. Bishop Camus has textually stated that from the moral standpoint, it seems that the government has opted for immorality, although it may perhaps have good intentions. Then, referring to the attack from which his excellency president of the Republic miraculously escaped alive, and alluding to perpetrators of the attack, he said: I would say that from the moral standpoint, they are not really culpable. Moreover, when he was asked if he sees those perpetrators as heroes, Msgr Camus replied: Yes, we have to recognize that they are.

Having learned of these distorted statements and considering the lofty position of the person responsible, I cannot but appeal to the good sense and natural composure of my fellow countrymen, both on behalf of the government and in my capacity as justice minister, to agree with me that never before in our country, not even in the most extreme partisan position, could anyone morally justify political assassination, or the offense inflicted on thousands of Chileans by casting doubt on their moral rectitude. People who, like the controversial bishop, are Catholic, and who have the high honor of serving our nation, must cooperate with President Pinochet.

What we are facing is an apologist for violence, who from the uncomfortable position he occupies, for obvious reasons, believes that the terrorists [who participated in the attack] must be declared heroes who are waging a war that has been declared against them and within the framework of which they launched an attack risking their own lives. We never thought that someone could go to such an extreme as to proclaim such an aberration which could lead to the situation, if such criminals were caught, no matter what crimes they have committed, that they could conceive such absurdity which could destroy the essence of all the juridical and legal system.

The bishop is not a senseless man, and I do not endorse the opinion of those who might consider him to be paranoid -- as he said, he is not. I think that, on the contrary, he is a man who meditates well. Thus he invariably hurls the most serious offenses and insults, leaving the way prepared for his defense, alleging misinterpretations, exceptions, or contexts as his alibis. We protest this atrocity.

We protest because the historical truth is being seriously distorted -- t e truth of such a despicable action in which a coldly calculated attempt, involving all kinds of elements, was made on the life of the president of the Republic, seeking to implant a Marxist tyranny in Chile. We protest because such statements are detrimental to the lofty service that President Pinochet is rendering to Chile and each of its offspring. We protest on behalf of the countless number of Catholic men and women, from the most modest to those who hold the highest positions of public responsibility who are serving the community with abnegation and Christian sensibility.

We protest because, on the eve of the coming of His Holiness John Paul II on a fundamentally pastoral mission, a man who represents nothing less than the episcopal order is marring the symbolism of his august visit in an unprecedented and cruel manner. We protest in the name of all Chileans of good faith, youths, women, and particularly in the name of those who, in the most massive demonstration in the history of the country, rallied by their president, 2 days after the criminal attack this past 9 September, to ratify their most absolute confidence in his extraordinary ability to conduct the country's affairs.

We finally protest by asking a question that rises from the depth of the soul of a man who has been decorated by the pontiff: Was the government immoral when President Pinochet sought peace through the August mediation of His Holiness John Paul II? Let us not be mistaken. The target of such a merciless diatribe is none other than President Pinochet, and it is so because with unbending fortitude he has stood in the way of the return of the Marxists. This causes such serious distortions as the one I have mentioned here -- distortions that are presented to the public in the vain hope that they may be accepted. It is indeed strange that those who make them seem to overlook the fact that these distortions cannot be implanted in rational minds.

All this will not upset our serene determination, however. The conscience and the purpose of serving Chile at this time in its history will remain unwavering in each one of us. And we proudly accept the call of the fatherland to continue down this path with unswerving perseverance. Good night.

CNI REJECTS BISHOPS' LETTER ON CAMUS' NIECES

PY110151 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The National Intelligence Center, CNI, has categorically rejected the terms of the statement issued by the permanent commission of Chilean Bishops. In a communique, the CNI states.

As is well known, on 23 February there was a powerful explosion in Apartment No 181 of the Flemming Towers complex. The explosion occurred when two persons, who later fled, were assembling a makeshift bomb. One of those in question was identified as Eduardo Morgan Tirado, who sustained serious injuries and required urgent medical attention.

Abundant terrorist material, including guns, explosives, pamphlets and stolen identity cards, which were to be used in future terrorist actions, were found at the scene. The companion and accomplice of the injured terrorist, who fled with her companion, was identified as Paola Maria Drago Camus, daughter of Bishop Carlos Camus' sister, who is the secretary of Lawyer Maximo Pacheco, president of the Chilean Human Rights Commission.

In view of this, the second military court undertook a massive investigation in order to apprehend those involved in the incident, which might have resulted in serious consequences and harmed over 80 families who live in the apartment complex.

In view of this, CNI personnel raided the residence of Paola Maria Drago Camus. As a result of the raid, the CNI arrested Paola Maria Drago Camus' sister, Claudia Helena Drago Camus. In her bedroom, CNI agents found abundant printed material giving instructions for subversive and terrorist actions. Such material, of course, is against the law.

Claudia Helena Drago Camus was detained at the CNI building for 3 days. During her detention she admitted that her sister, Paola Maria, was responsible for the incident. While she was under arrest, Claudia Maria received the same treatment that would be given to any person subjected to court proceedings of this nature. She was thus able to receive visits from officials of the International Red Cross, from the Chilean Human Rights Commission, and from her relatives, all of whom could see that she was in perfect health. [passage omitted]

The CNI categorically rejects the terms included in the letter that the Permanent Committee of Chilean Bishops addressed to the Christian community regarding harassments against Claudia Maria Drago Camus. [passage omitted]

BISHOP WORRIED BY PINOCHET RESPONSE TO LETTER

PY101408 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1441 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Santiago, 9 Mar (EFE) -- Sergio Contreras, the secretary general of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Chile, termed as "lamentable" General Augusto Pinochet's reaction to the recent document that was issued by the Chilean prelates.

Monsignor Sergio Contreras expressed his concern about the reaction by the chief of state because "if they had just been passing remarks... but, it seems that the president weighed his remarks. That is serious, especially because he is a Catholic."

Before leaving for Asuncion, Paraguay, where he will participate in a round of consultations between Latin American bishops, Contreras commented on the reaction of President Pinochet, who on reading the Episcopal document believed "that he was observing the birth of another political party." [passage omitted]

Contreras stated that in his opinion President Pinochet's reaction was not very "noble" in view of such important matters, and he added that "at the beginning I thought his words came off the cuff, but I then learned that he had said them quite calmly. This fact has left me deeply concerned."

CARABINEROS DISPERSE WOMEN'S DAY DEMONSTRATION

PY110035 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Special Carabineros task forces tonight had to disperse small groups of demonstrators who had gathered on downtown Santiago streets to shout antigovernment slogans. The demonstrations were held under the pretext of commemorating International Women's Day, which as everyone knows is celebrated on 8 March.

The Carabineros water cannon was used on several occasions to disperse small groups of demonstrators who blocked traffic on some major streets.

After touring downtown Santiago streets, we must reassert that these demonstrations are obviously politically oriented and seek to create unrest.

We must add that these groups intend to undermine ceremonies that will be held tomorrow to commemorate the anniversary of the Constitution, which was approved by a vast majority of Chileans.

Police Arrest 50

PY110134 Paris AFP in Spanish 0033 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Santiago, 10 Mar (AFP) -- About 50 people were arrested and many were injured tonight in downtown Santiago when police clashed with antigovernment demonstrators who were celebrating International Women's Day.

Using armored cars, water cannons, and tear gas, the police harshly repressed hundreds of people who were shouting slogans against the regime of General Augusto Pinochet during a demonstration organized by Women for Life. [passage omitted]

While the women were shouting, the police arrested about 45 people, some of whom were only spectators. In some areas of downtown Santiago, the demonstrators set up barricades with burning tires, and interrupted traffic by throwing rocks and other projectiles, causing traffic jams. Police cars blocked a large section of Bernardo O'Higgins Avenue for over 1 hour, and used water cannons and tear gas on demonstrators and pedestrians.

The deafening sound of the sirens of fire trucks, police vehicles, and ambulance caused among the home-bound people who were awaiting busses.

BOMB EXPLOSION CAUSES DAMAGE AT SODA FOUNTAIN

PY110156 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Here is a last-minute report: A bomb exploded today at 1850 in a downtown soda fountain. The explosion caused serious damage but so far there have been no reports of injuries.

The explosion occurred at 508 Bandera Street. Carabineros personnel are checking the area to see if there are any more bombs.

MIRAGE FIGHTER CRASHES IN CHICLAYO 9 MAR

PY101503 Paris AFP in Spanish 1432 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 10 Mar (AFP) -- The Air Force today reported that one of its Mirage M-5-P fighter planes crashed near Chiclayo, 752 km north of Lima. The plane's pilot was able to eject from the plane, but he was injured.

The accident occurred on 9 March near Ferrenafe, 20 km northeast of Chiclayo. Captain Pedro Ceabra, the pilot, has been hospitalized.

According to reports received in Lima, it seems that the plane suffered some mechanical trouble, which is currently being investigated by authorities. The plane and the pilot are based at the Sixth Air Group in Chiclayo.

CENTRAL BANK RELEASES CURRENT ECONOMIC DATA

PY101232 Paris AFP in Spanish 0033 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The Central Reserve Bank today reported that during the first 5 weeks of the year approximately $200 million entered the country from exports.

The bank also indicated that the export of minerals amounted to $89 million; fish products $23 million; agricultural products $15 million; petroleum products $25 million; and other products $48 million.

The bank's bulletin also states that until 7 February the country's internal monetary liquidity grew by 2.5 percent, and its monetary base by 1.1 percent.

According to the bulletin, current gross international reserves amount to $1,714,000,000 and net reserves amount to $821 million. These high reserves will ensure the fluidity of trade operations.

It also indicates that during the first 5 weeks of the year, imports amounted to $249 million. The bulletin also states that, during January, Peru serviced its foreign debt to the tune of $35 million.

BRIEFS

NEW TELEVISION STATION -- RBC Television Channel 11 was officially dedicated on 22 December 1986. Belmont Bar is the president of the executive board. [Summary] [Lima EXPRESSO in Spanish 23 Dec 86 p 16 PY]

POPULATION CENSUS REPORT -- Lima, 1 Mar (AFP) -- The National Statistics Institute today reported that Peru has a population of 20,727,100 inhabitants and that despite a slight decrease in population growth Peru will have around 28 million people by the year 2000. The report indicates that there are 10,441,300 men and 10,285,800 women in Peru. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1633 GMT 1 Mar 87 PY]

DE LA MADRID, ARIAS RELEASE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

PA070433 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Mar 87 p 4

[Joint communique issued by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and President Miguel de la Madrid in Mexico City; date not given]

[Excerpts] In response to an invitation from Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez officially visited Mexico 26-27 February with a distinguished retinue.

The visit by the Costa Rican president took place in a framework of frank cordiality and understanding, reflecting the close ties of friendship, cooperation, and mutual respect that have traditionally linked Mexico and Costa Rica. President de la Madrid stressed the importance of the visit, which has underscored the priority nature of Mexico's relations with Latin America and its special interest in its relations with Central America.

President de la Madrid stressed that since President Arias Sanchez took office in May 1986, reciprocal visits by high-level government officials and parliamentary delegations reflect the firm decision by both governments to open and consolidate a new stage of cooperation, and show the excellent level of relations between Mexico and Costa Rica.

The two presidents held fruitful talks to evaluate and boost bilateral cooperation. They reiterated their firm political decision to continue boosting relations between Mexico and Costa Rica. These relations will substantially promote the national development of each country and strengthen peace and cooperation in Latin America.

The two presidents made an in-depth review of cooperative actions and agreed to highlight advances made during recent years. They also expressed the need to give relations in these areas greater emphasis and explore new options of common interest.

They also agreed on the interest of both governments in giving priority to political actions that will eventually turn into specific forms of cooperation.

The presidents stressed that the high level of the delegations of each of their countries that attend the Joint Economic Technical-Scientific and Cultural and Educational Commission meeting that took place in Mexico City 27-28 October 1986, headed by Foreign Ministers Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, allowed for an overview and political evaluation of the cooperation program and the new courses of action to take, as well as a broad review and evaluation of bilateral relations.

The two presidents evaluated the bilateral economic and financial relations between their two countries, and confirmed with satisfaction that these relations continue to be strengthened and diversified.

Once they had analyzed the talks held between officials of their respective governments to normalize and strengthen financial cooperation, the two presidents congratulated each other on how these talks turned out. During the president of Costa Rica's state visit, a memorandum of understanding on the restructuring of Costa Rica's foreign debt to Mexico was signed. Also signed was an agreement for treasury-financial [hacendario-financiera] technical cooperation, thus opening a new stage of understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

Upon reviewing trade between Mexico and Costa Rica, the presidents agreed that it had been limited and sporadic, and said that it is necessary to reverse this trend, taking advantage of all available tools covered by the agreements. [passage omitted]

President Arias expressed appreciation for the Mexican Government's willingness to give Costa Rica the support it needs in its negotiations to join GATT, taking into account Mexico's experience in that regard and the common search of both countries for a multilateral trade system that would guarantee the expansion of international trade and dynamic participation for developing countries.

Regarding energy cooperation, they highlighted the following:

-- The satisfaction of both countries over the successful operation of the San Jose Agreement and their political willingness to obtain greater benefits in industrial cooperation.

-- Regarding products in which they already have trade experience (liquefied gas and asphalt), it was stated that Pemex is willing to continue the supply based on stipulations that will be worked out with RECOPE [Costa Rican Oil Refinery] by common agreement.

[No hyphen as published] The political commitment to make optimum use of the mechanisms of financing included in the San Jose Agreement or alternate formulas to launch joint actions in the refining of hydrocarbons, Mexican assistance for the modernization of the refinery in Costa Rica, and the use of the current resources in the Central American Economic Integration Bank for the housing program that is being carried out in that country. Likewise, the presidents also considered the possibility of allotting resources to other projects in addition to the energy programs, but with a considerable amount of Mexican imports.

-- The decision to form a technical work group that will analyze the projects that were brought up (modernization of the refinery in Costa Rica, housing, tanks for the storage and distribution of water, water meters, plants for processing [endulzamiento] liquefied petroleum gas, and a food-processing plant) in order to present specific proposals that are feasible from a technical, commercial, and financial point of view in a period of time no longer than 60 days.

Both presidents were pleased to note the agreement reached among the corresponding authorities of their respective governments for establishing ties of technical cooperation in migration issues, providing help to the refugees, and police training in the field of public security. To this effect, it was agreed that a mission of Mexican experts will travel to Costa Rica to determine the specific aspects of this cooperation. This agreement also includes an interest in cooperating with the training of personnel to fight drug trafficking and prevent smuggling.

Emphasis was placed on the important role played by the Latin American and Caribbean Radio Broadcasting Association (ULCRA) as part of the efforts for the cultural integration of Latin America. To this effect, the Mexican Government announced its determination to continue supporting ULCRA by institutionalizing the "Latin American and Caribbean Radio and Television Market."

The presidents voiced their satisfaction over the conclusion of the bilateral programs of scientific and technical cooperation, including those on agricultural and forestry aspects for the development of woods, the cultivation of fruits, and the protection of vegetables from diseases; ecological projects on industrial safety and hygiene, protection of the environment, soil contamination, and treatment of the residues from the sugar and coffee industries; information or urban housing; and seismic information.

The two presidents were pleased with the progress made in the cooperation program concerning tourism, and the use of the cooperation agreement to this effect between the two countries. They emphasized that it would be advisable for their respective authorities to exchange new specific projects through diplomatic means. They also voiced their approval over the conversations their respective governments have had in the area of trasnportation and communications, as well as the study of projects within the framework of the Basic Agreement of Technical Assistance that is in effect. They also agreed that the two governments will shortly exchange adequate documents in order to put into effect the Agreement on Air Transportation that was signed in San Jose in May 1985.

They also pointed out that their respective governments will explore other possibilities for cooperation in fishing development, such as aquaculture, research of resources, organization and training for fishing activities, information technology, statistics, adapting new technologies for the production of fish oil and fishmeal, the breeding of shrimp and jumbo shrimp, and the project to build a port for the tuna fishing vessels.

They also voiced their agreement over the progress made in the actions of cooperation in the public health sector, particularly the excellent results obtained through the agreement between the Mexican Social Security Institute and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund; and expressed wishes for continuous success. [passage omitted]

Within the same context, the two heads of state agreed to stress the importance given by their governments to the establishment of the Latin American parliament, which they described as a major political project. They reiterated their total support for that initiative and agreed to promote the process for its prompt institutionalization.

They reviewed with great interest the possibility that the Mexican Government may financially support the study and realization of "Costa Rica's national real estate program," a top priority for the Costa Rican Government.

The two presidents congratulated themselves for the progress made in the negotiations conducted by their governments for the conclusion of a Treaty on Extradition and Mutual Assistance in Penal Matters, which will be signed soon.

During their talks, the presidents stressed that the relations between states should be based on international law and the observance of basic principles of international coexistence: nonintervention, self-determination, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, peaceful solution of controversies, and the promotion of international and regional cooperation.

The two presidents agreed on the urgent need to halt the arms race. They admitted that although disarmament is mainly a responsibility of the nuclear powers, all countries have a right to contribute to achieving that objective. In that regard, they regretted the excessive use of funds to manufacture war materiel, which could be channeled to economic and social development programs.

President Arias expressed his support for the efforts contained in the Initiative for Peace and Disarmament sponsored by the Group of Six, in which President de la Madrid participates. He agreed with the contents of the New Delhi Declaration in 1985 and the Mexico Declaration in 1986. He urged the Group of Six to continue its efforts in favor of dialogue and communication between the two superpowers that will lead to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Within this context, the two presidents stressed the need to reach effective agreements on the subject of nuclear disarmament in the near future, which could include the suspension of nuclear tests and the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Tlaltelolco Treaty last 14 February, the Mexican and Costa Rican presidents expressed their determination to promote a process to consolidate an area free of nuclear weapons in Latin America. In this regard, they urged those states that have not yet endorsed the treaty to reconsider their position and join the Tlaltelolco system.

Presidents de la Madrid and Arias reiterated their total adherence to and unconditional support for human rights and their government's commitment to contribute to the strengthening of their observance throughout the world. They stressed the solid historical and political tradition supporting Mexico and Costa Rica's firm position concerning the respect for human rights and for the fundamental individual rights contained in their respective laws. They noted that transcending the domestic field, those rights have become principles of their foreign policies.

Regarding Latin America and the problems it is now confronting in its struggle for economic development and the material progress of its people, they stressed as a positive and encouraging sign the strengthening of cooperation and solidarity in the region. [passage omitted]

Convinced of the contribution that Mexico and Costa Rica must make to ensure the enforcement of peace, understanding, and constructive cooperation, the presidents reasserted their firm intentions to continue the efforts to attain a negotiated political solution. This urgent and unavoidable solution should be based on the principles which underlie the coexistence among American states and should allow the Central American people to overcome their differences and open a new phase of solidarity, conciliation, and joint efforts, which are necessary to renew economic and social development tasks.

The presidents fully agreed that the Contadora and Support Groups represent the Latin American forum through which it is possible to channel all the various joint efforts which may arise as an expression of the Central American people's well defined and firm will, and their intention to settle the regional conflict in a peaceful way.

Likewise, they consider all the initiatives which are presented in good faith, with a constructive spirit and unified attitude, and which seek to improve regional political communication and the atmosphere for a consensus, are highly positive.

President Arias referred to the efforts exerted by his government and reflected in the document which was recently analyzed in San Jose by the presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, and was issued within the framework of the Contadora Group's mediation process. He also stated that the upcoming meeting in Esquipulas is aimed at promoting a dialogue among all the Central American states so that they may assume their historic responsibility and settle their disputes in a peaceful way. This will lead to a situation which guarantees a just balance of the legitimate interests of all the nations in the area, according to the Contadora Group's proposal.

President Arias told President de la Madrid that the presidents who participated in the San Jose meeting termed the Costa Rican plan viable, constructive, and timely.

The president of Mexico stated that Costa Rica's efforts to attain a negotiated and peaceful solution to the Central American crisis are highly significant.

They welcomed the results of the Third Conference of Foreign Ministers of Central America, Contadora, and the EEC which was recently held in Guatemala City. In addition to establishing new roads to developing political and economic cooperation, the meeting helped to firmly and clearly reassert the international community's support of the peace efforts which have been exerted by the Contadora Group during the last 4 years, with the Central American governments' full participation, to attain peace in Central America.

The two presidents referred to the grave economic, social, and political consequences of the foreign debt problem in Latin America. Referring to this, they reasserted the Costa Rican and Mexican Governments' firm pledge to safeguard their people's welfare. They stressed the need to adequately adjust the payments of their foreign debt service to their real capacity for payment, noting that the sustained growth of their economies is an immediate need. Consequently, the two presidents stressed that the solution to the foreign debt problem must recognize the efforts and sacrifices exerted by debtor countries, which cannot possibly enforce recessive internal adjustment measures on an indefinite basis; this is contrary to their imperative need for economic growth. They insisted on the urgent need for creditors to assume their responsibility in the overall solution to the foreign debt problem, which includes sharing the costs.

The presidents reasserted their political support of the SELA and agreed to exert themselves to strengthen this regional organization so it may continue to operate as a forum for agreements and define the joint actions for all the countries in the region. [passage omitted]

GUATEMALAN OFFICIAL INVITES REFUGEES TO RETURN

FL071921 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2021 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Miguel von Hoegen, deputy minister for urban and rural development of Guatemala, has reported that approximately 38,000 Guatemalan refugees are presently in Mexico.

During his visit here, the official invited the refugees to return to Guatemala by means of a repatriation procedure that establishes that displaced peasants and Indians may return to their place of origin temporarily and without obligation. He explained that they can see for themselves that conditions are right for their return. If they believe they are not, they are free to leave again, inasmuch as no one is forced to stay.

DE LA MADRID GIVES AWARD TO URUGUAY'S IGLESIAS

FL102226 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0147 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 9 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Jose Juan de Olloqui, director general of the Banca Serfin, said today that Latin America is facing one of the worst economic crises of the past 50 years, which transcends the economic realm and causes social and political upheaval.

He made those remarks during the ceremony at which Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid presented Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias with the Serfin Award of Latin American integration. [passage omitted]

The guest of honor appreciated the distinction, particularly because it comes from a country like Mexico, which has always shown concern for Latin American integration.

BANXICO REPORTS INFLATION INDEX INCREASES

FL102315 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0358 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Bank of Mexico (Banxico) reports that last February the inflation index increased by 7.2 percent compared to the level reached in January. Increased prices for food, medicines, toiletries, furniture, household goods, cars, insurance, registrations, parking, spare parts, and lubricants contributed the most to the index growth.

The Central Bank indicated that the price increase for books, photographic supplies, sporting goods, as well as restaurant and other services also contributed to the inflation index increase. It noted that the accumulated inflation index increase was 15.9 percent during the first 2 months of 1987. The cities that experienced the largest consumer price increase during February were Acapulco, Leon, and Tampico and the cities with the lowest increases were Tapachula, Chetumal, and Cordoba.

The banking institution reported that in February the national production price index was 6.5 percent higher than January's index and said this indicator's accumulated variation during the first 2 months of the year was 17.8 percent.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUANS DEPORTED TO UNSPECIFIED NATION

PA101331 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 11

[Text] Ten Nicaraguan illegal aliens were deported on Sunday and placed on a flight departing from the Juan Santamaria International Airport to a Central American country, which Deputy Government Minister Alvaro Ramos refused to identify.

Ramos announced that this is the first time that a group of foreigners has been expelled from Costa Rican territory. Nevertheless, he explained that negotiations are being undertaken with the government of the other nation to send 10 more Nicaraguans.

He also refused to give further details about the progress of these negotiations.

The Nicaraguans left at 0700 on Sunday aboard a commercial flight. They are Rosmery Vivas Rivera, Rafael Rodriguez Valle, Fermin Ramirez Murillo, Indalecio Gonzalez Rivas, Guillermo Gaynez Romero, Rodolfo Mendez Fernandez, Ricardo Castillo Urbina, Salvador Valdivia Tinoco, Dayra Ayerdes, and Daniel Hernandez Membreno.

The deputy minister reiterated that the deported individuals will have to follow the immigration laws and will be able to work [in the country to which they were deported], something that they were not permitted to do here.

EL SALVADOR

VENCEREMOS: PLANE DOWNED IN HONDURAS SALVADORAN

PA110319 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Attention, your attention. We call the attention of the local and international media. Radio Venceremos has received very important last minute information. Your attention, in a few minutes we will report very important information. We call the local and foreign press correspondents to take note of this information.

This is the last-minute information received by Radio Venceremos.

This Tuesday, 10 March, a C-47 plane was downed in Honduran territory. This C-47 plane belonged to the Salvadoran Air Force and was carrying out a supply mission to the counterrevolutionary forces. We repeat, the C-47 plane downed this Tuesday, 10 March, in Honduras belonged to the Salvadoran Air Force. It was a C-47 plane downed while it was involved in a supply mission to the counterrevolutionary forces in Honduras. Our military intelligence sources [words indistinct] that due to a confusion in the initials FAS Salvadoran Air Force, on the C-47 plane, the plane was downed by Honduran Air Force fighter planes.

This is the report from our military intelligence received by Radio Venceremos.

We repeat, the Salvadoran Air Force C-47 plane downed while it was involved in a supply mission to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary forces in Honduras was downed by Honduran Air Force fighter planes.

This [words indistinct] when the initials of the Salvadoran Air Force C-47 plane were [words indistinct]. The initials on the plane are FAS Salvadoran Air Force.

Radio Venceremos will continue providing more information about this incident, which shows once again the direct participation of the Salvadoran Armed Forces and the Napoleon Duarte government in supply tasks to the counterrevolutionary forces.

We urge the local and foreign correspondents in our country and in Honduras to verify this information that we are broadcasting on Radio Venceremos. A Salvadoran Air Force C-47 plane was downed in Honduras by Honduran Air Force fighter planes. This plane was carrying out a supply mission to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary forces in Honduran territory.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ANALYZES GOAL OF PEACE

PA110342 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 8 Mar 87 p 7

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Mar (SISAL) -- The FMLN-FDR rebels refuse to contribute to peace; therefore, there is an essential ethical-political need to prevent the violation of the most basic rights of the Salvadoran people." [quotation marks as published]

The Salvadoran Foreign Affairs Ministry stated this in a document in which it analyzes "the goal of attaining peace throughout the country" in order to guarantee the right to life, personal safety, and subsequently to protect other rights such as the right to health, education, work, and housing.

Humanization. The report adds that in the field of humanization, the government intends to protect and exalt society's primary values to favor the needy, who are the ones who directly suffer from the destructive consequences of the war. Measures will be adopted to restore and form an awareness of understanding and social cooperation to promote greater fraternity and solidarity in society.

Components. The document points out the basic components of humanization:

A) To continue the policy of making the Armed Forces more professional and technically adept, to spread and teach humanitarian norms that the Salvadoran Government is committed to fulfill, and to control the fulfillment of those norms and punish those who abuse their authority. These efforts are included in the stipulations of the Geneva Convention and its additional protocols, which applies to noninternational armed conflicts and to the emergency programs for refugees and people who have been displaced because of the conflicts.

B) To increase protection, public security, and defense in order to prevent attacks against the Salvadoran economic, public, and private infrastructure that could affect the vital present and future rights of Salvadorans.

C) To include the teaching of human rights in school programs and to strengthen the (government's) Human Rights Commission of El Salvador as the responsible institution that guarantees the respect, protection, and promotion of those rights.

GEN BLANDON DISCUSSES MILITARY OPERATIONS

PA101603 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Interview with General Adolfo O. Blandon, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, by Rossy Castillo, on 8 March, during his visit to Atlacatl Battalion to attend a graduation ceremony — recorded]

[Text] [Blandon] We are also undertaking a very important operation in northern Morazan. As a part of this 13 July Heroes Operation, there was fighting yesterday north of the Torola River, where a unit from Military Detachment No 4 clashed with a group of approximately 60 terrorists. The clash lasted 2 hours and our unit verified that 8 terrorists had been killed and approximately 12 had been wounded. One of our soldier was killed and another was wounded.

This is an important operation because Military Detachment No 4 executed a very clever tactical maneuver. The terrorists had no choice but to withdraw. The operation continued with our troops pursuing the terrorists, and the high command feels that the unit's performance was very professional.

We also have a permanent operation in the lower Lempa River region because we have had reports that terrorists are planning to carry out a logistic operation involving the unloading of a shipment from Nicaragua.

At the same time there is another operation in Chalatenango Department, which encompasses much of the northern area near the Honduran border. Here the 4th Infantry Brigade commando units and Military Detachment No 4 units have carried out operations with special units, which have produced very good results. This is what they have accomplished.

I also want to mention another operation and an incident that occurred yesterday north of San Juan Opico, where units from the Artillery Brigade clashed with a group of approximately eight rebels. Two rebels were killed in this clash and we seized the weapons they were carrying. One of our soldiers was wounded.

I believe that these are the most important operations we have carried out in the past 48 hours.

[Castillo] General, there have been reports about the downing of a helicopter and the forced landing of a plane. Could you explain what really happened to these planes?

[Blandon] Yes, yesterday a C-47 cargo plane which was beginning an exercise with units receiving training in the Atlacatl Battalion was landing on the road from San Salvador to Santa Ana — on the widest section of the road — exactly in front of this unit's installations.

At the end of the runway, when the plane was about to land, according to the technicians, there was a problem with the braking system. The brakes were stuck and as mentioned by the experts, the plane nosedived and the propeller hit the paved road. There is a group of technicians trying to repair the plane now so it can return to Ilopango. Regarding the helicopters, that is absolutely false. In the past few days no helicopters have been downed.

[Castillo] General Blandon, among the actions being carried out by the Armed Forces, according to some reports from civilians, the Salvadoran Air Force is unjustly bombing civilian towns where they believe guerrillas are located. How does the Air Force -- basically following orders from the High Command -- carry out these operations?

[Blandon] Well, regarding bombing civilian locations, that is part of the terrorist groups' propaganda, which they also exploit abroad. They are trying to discredit the Air Force actions because the Air Force is a very effective instrument in the struggle against terrorists. At this moment, I would say that on very few occasions do we make use of aerial weapons, excluding helicopters. Because of the intense campaigns by the Armed Forces and the initiative and the permanent offensive we have maintained for more than 2 years, the terrorists have now split into very small groups and these are not feasible objectives for the Air Force. In addition, the president of the Republic has ordered regulation of the use of aerial weapons. Regulations have been issued, and the Air Force has to make an analysis of the objectives in operations for which their support has been requested. They have to consult with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. We try to cause the least damage when it is necessary to provide some air support.

Let me tell you that at this time the air support missions using combat planes such as the A-37 are very sporadic and rarely occur. We are basically working with helicopters. However, we are using these helicopters in operations that have been one of the tactical changes we have made this year. We are using helicopters frequently to strike the enemy's rearguard with special units. We are working with small groups that have been very well trained so that they can perform in-depth operations at the level of this command and of units that remain in the rearguard like security personnel of the commanders who remain either in Honduras or very close to the Honduran border, which is where they take refuge.

Therefore, as I mentioned at the beginning, the rebels will continue their efforts to discredit the Air Force, seeking to prevent us from receiving U.S. aid for our Air Force as much as they can. A senator [not further identified] withheld $9 million precisely because of these bombings of civilian villages. Yesterday, I received a report from Washington that this senator had lifted this restriction, and we will soon have the material we need once we get the $9 million. This senator lifted this restriction because he visited El Salvador. He came here to learn about the situation, talked with all sectors, including military men, and he was able to see how information is distorted abroad. Following his return -- because he returned to the United States approximately 8 days ago -- I received the news that the restriction had been lifted. That is very positive for us.

Venceremos Counters Blandon

PA101602 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Our militia units occupied San Isidro, south of the Torola River, Morazan Department, this weekend. After the occupation, a group of Military Detachment No 4 soldiers was ambushed by our forces. During the ambush the Army suffered four casualties. General Blandon, the high command's gorilla, has allowed his [word indistinct] imagination to wander. During one of his drinking sprees he made some statements and (?invented) many FMLN dead and wounded during combats waged near San Isidro. Wino [borrachito] Blandon said that during those combats the FMLN suffered seven dead and several wounded. He [words indistinct] and even congratulated the Military Detachment No 4 for the (?success) of an alleged military operation. [Words indistinct] is not true. The FMLN did not suffer casualties during those clashes. All this has been an invention fabricated by Colonel Mauricio Vargas and Gen Wino Blandon.

If Blandon, the high command's gorilla who is [word indistinct] by the defeats inflicted by the FMLN, wishes to describe falling into an ambush as a military operation, then that is his problem [words indistinct].

VENCEREMOS CRITICIZES PRIEST'S HOMILY ON REFUGEES

PA101941 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A Catholic priest has referred to compatriots who have taken refuge in the United States and who are about to be deported from that country because of a new immigration bill decreed by the Reagan administration, in a disrespectful and irresponsible way during his Sunday homily.

That priest said that most Salvadorans living in the United States sell marijuana and are involved in prostitution. The offense was aimed at some 500,000 Salvadorans who are working every day and making great sacrifices to send the product of their work from the United States to their families in our country.

The amount of dollars sent by those compatriots constitutes more than the foreign currency produced by traditional exports. Their forceful repatriation will have serious consequences for our country's structural crisis.

GUATEMALA

CEREZO TALKS TO NATION ABOUT S. AMERICAN TRIP

PA100303 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Speech by President Vinicio Cerezo to the Guatemalan people, in Guatemala City; date not given]

[Text] Guatemalans, the speaker is your president and friend, Vinicio Cerezo. For some time, we have not had the opportunity to discuss the various problems affecting Guatemalans, which we will try to solve together -- the president of the Republic, the government, and all of you, Guatemalans.

Naturally, as we have said, what is involved here is the consolidation of democracy, for which we have struggled for such a long time. I want to talk with you now about my latest trip. As you have learned from the press, I have just made a trip to South America. South America consists of such brother countries as Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, which make up the Support Group of the Contadora plan. This group is also composed of other South and Central American countries which are working to consolidate peace in Central America.

We know how important peace is in Central America. As long as there is no peace it will be difficult for us to attain stability. As long as there is no stability it will be difficult for us to bring about economic development. There will be deaths and we will find it difficult to forge ahead.

Therefore, we went to South America in order to solidify good relations with our friends, with the democratic countries like ours, which are working to build their own destiny and to strengthen their nations. They are working to give greater participation to the people, in order for the people to have a government of the people, for the people, and by the people.

We found interesting things there, about which I would like to tell you. They have economic problems like Guatemala. They have social problems. They are emerging into democracy, like our country. There is also some violence there. There are common crimes there. This seems to be part of all budding democracies. I remember that in Spain there were also many common crimes and much violence. It seems that criminals try to take advantage of the freedom established by the inhabitants of nations.

I went to Uruguay, and Brazil, which are large countries with great wealth, but also with great problems. Seeing those problems made us realize that we, in some way, have overcome our problems, perhaps more than other countries.

However, by looking at their examples, by taking into account what they are doing, and the successes they have obtained, we can improve on our efforts here in Guatemala.

We went to those countries to tell them what we are doing. We told them that for the last 30 years our country has been working to recover the right to lead ourselves, to give our people the possibility to elect its president, to reach agreements of some sort in order to reduce violence and confrontations. We told them that it took us a long time, but that finally in 1985 the Guatemalan people had the opportunity to vote, to practice democracy, and to democratically elect the president who is now leading the nation's destiny.

Those countries were very happy about all this. They are very happy with the attitude that Guatemala is taking at present, because they thought that Guatemala was going to be destroyed by violence and war as other nations of the world, who did not find the road to peace through democacy, have been destroyed.

You can recall my friends that recently in 1982, when other presidents were victims of coup d'etats, there were 15, 30, or 50 Guatemalans killed in our streets. [sentence as heard] Do you remember? There were no labor unions, no public demonstrations; even political parties could not exist in peace, because their leaders were killed. We recall friends like Manuel Colon Argueta, Alberto Fuentes and more. We also remember corruption during those years. We remember the terrible things that were happening in those countries [corrects himself] in those places.

In addition, Guatemala had a very bad image abroad. Everybody thought that Guatemala was on the verge of civil war, that it was going to be destroyed, that there was no other solution to its problems, except violence. Thank God, we found the road to peace. We found the way to work together to build our own destiny.

Of course we had to tell them the truth. We told them that we had inherited many problems. We had inherited a house in complete disorder, debt everywhere, corruption, inefficiency in serveral areas of the administration, debts with other countries, unfinished works, hatred, and resentment. All that created an enormous disorder in Guatemala. This is what we had. This is what we inherited. We inherited evils that had been building up for 30, 40 and 50 years. Problems that were not resolved by any of the previous governments.

Furthermore, some political parties, which participated in the government for 30 years, did not even try to resolve those problems. Therefore those problems built-up through the years. Guatemalans were left without homes and jobs. Guatemalans were victims of violence and repression.

Many newsmen and journalists were murdered for saying only half of what is reported today.

Thank God, now everybody is able to say what they want. There is a climate of freedom and participation. There is a climate in which people feel they have a right to speak and to even tell lies about the government, to make any kind of accusations. However, the government respects them, because we maintain a climate of legality. We respect the country's Constitution, because we are a democrary.

We told them that some of these problems -- as you know -- were not resolved in a year, in only 1 year of work. They understood that perfectly well. Why? Because they have had several years of living in a democracy, of trying to resolve their problems and they have not been able to solve them all. They have tried to make progress, to overcome obstacles, because it is not very easy to put order into something that was inherited in a state of absolute anarchy.

However, we also told them that we have the firm willingness to work and resolve our problems. We told them that you, the Guatemalan people, and its president are united in a single hope, and that we are convinced that we can build the Guatemala that we dream of. We told them that we still have violence, unemployment, and that we have not been able to resolve all the problems of the past, but that we are resolving them step by step. We told them that we are making one step here, another there, and they were truly impressed by the way we had resolved some things.

All those countries are experiencing a constant devaluation of their currencies. We succeeded in revaluating the quetzal. Before, we paid 4 quetzales for a dollar, now we pay 2.5 quetzales for a dollar. All those countries have experienced a great inflationary process. Prices are sky high. Some prices have increased 1,000 times over what they were before. In Guatemala they increased 45 times of what they were. However, we reduced them to only 15 times more and we are planning to continue reducing prices, because we know that you are suffering the cost of living on a daily basis, because of your low salaries and we will succeed. This is what we told them.

We told them that we have faith in the future, that we trust ourselves, that it is not true that Guatemala has no solution, and that what we asserted during our electoral campaign about finding a road to solve our problems is true. There is a road; we found it and we are starting to build it together. Therefore my friends, what did they decide to do?

They decided to jointly support our democracy. We have been making all the countries of the world including Europe, South America, and Central America understand that we are trying to attain democracy despite many difficulties. It is taking much effort on our part, but because we have the will to overcome obstacles they are going to support us to help us overcome these obstacles. They have expressed their solidarity to us. Before, Guatemala was a country rejected by the whole world, now when we arrive in some country we realize that Guatemala is increasingly appreciated and that Guatemalans are increasingly respected. We are promoting our nation through democracy and the struggle for peace.

My dear friends, we also told the South American nations that we are not only working in Guatemala, but also in Central America. We told them that we want peace in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. We told the South American nations that the instability in El Salvador and Nicaragua, that the violence they are experiencing affects us as well. The fact that they cannot resolve their economic problems affects us. We told them that because everything that happens in Central America, in El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua causes problems for us, we are also trying to resolve their problems, because by helping them resolve their problems, we are helping Guatemalans resolve their own.

This is what we did on our trip. We achieved great success. I tell you this sincerely. It is a pleasure to go abroad and realize that Guatemalans are appreciated and loved.

However, everything did not end there. Everything did not end in this pleasure or in the political support we obtained. We have also been receiving economic support, loans, contracts, and trade agreements, which will benefit all Guatemalans. Benefits cannot be seen immediately, because as I have told you; to get corn to grow, one has to work very hard. Things do not come from heaven. We have to work, to make united efforts. We have to work every day, every hour thinking that each Guatemalan's task is to build democracy. Of course, some people are desperate. I have seen some things written in the papers. They constantly criticize me, they sometimes even accuse me of things I have not done. They keep saying that I am worse than previous governments. Thank God Guatemalans know that this is not true. I am treated with more harshness than those who committed fraud during previous elections. Furthermore, some of those who committed fraud during previous elections are now exhorting the rights of the people.

However, all that is part of democracy. The good thing is that everybody feels the right to criticize its president and to make suggestions, but the most important thing is that the president continues to have the trust, affection, and love of the people.

My friends, you should recall what I have always told you: The only thing you cannot and should not lose, the only thing you do not have a right to abandon is your trust in our efforts to progress.

We have done many things. We have opened rural roads, we have given direct economic assistance to municipalities. We began to reduce the cost of living, and have at least, succeeded in controlling it. This year we will reduce the cost of living by reducing the prices of staple items. We eliminated political violence, although there are a few problems in the interior of the country, which we will control. But political violence has all but been eliminated. We are now trying to control common crime, which exists and is affecting you. We will try indeed.

In my speech of 15 January we proposed three main objectives for this year: to reduce the prices of staple items, to create employment for Guatemalans, and to control common crime. We will succeed, because last year we said we would put Guatemalan democracy in order and we did. We said we would get money to create job sources for this year and we got the money. We said we would turn Guatemala into a free, prestigious, and independent country in the eyes of the nations of the world; and we did it.

The things that we promised to do last year, we fulfilled. The ones that we will promise to do this year, we will fulfill as well. The only thing I need to continue with my work is the support that you have always given me. For example, when I walk down our streets people greet me with affection, they smile at me, they embrace me, and children look at me with hope. A president, who is loved by his people, who still has his people's trust, will be successful. You can trust me, because we will move ahead.

Therefore, this year we have a difficult task to fulfill. We have to face the main problems. We have to face them by overcoming the few small obstacles established by democracy. For example, we have strikes every day -- sometimes this affects children, the teachers' strikes affected them. Last year we had a strike at the Health Ministry and it affected all those who were going to be vaccinated. We can bear all those things, but we need understanding, dialogue, and agreements, because it is not a matter of thinking only of individual interests, nor of group interest either. We have to agree to forge our nation.

I was given a basic task, and I am determined to fulfill it. I must consolidate democracy, because the labor union leaders, the political leaders, who are at present exercising their freedom and fighting for the rights of those they represent, should never forget that in 1954 democracy was defeated because Guatemalans did not know how to reach agreements and we became international instruments. They should never forget that in 1968 we were persecuted and repressed, so we should make responsible use of the freedom and democracy we are now experiencing.

There are some enemies of democracy, but very few. They want you, leaders, to abuse your rights. They want you to organize many strikes, and they want a great deal of abuse and disorder to take place in the country, in order to justify the establishment of governments of force, governments that persecute leaders and people. Lifelong conservatives and lifelong rightists, those who do not want democracy, those who would like things to continue being the way they have always been, instigate people to spend their time exercising their freedom and rights creating confrontations with the government so that conditions that will force us to return to the past can be created again. We will no do that. We will not lose our patience and you will not lose your confidence, because we know what the government's responsibility is: to create conditions to exercise democracy.

All of us have to fulfill our responsibilities. Leaders have to represent their people, to work for them. Do not worry, go ahead and exercise your rights, but exercise those rights with responsibility, just as we have faced our task, because we asked the people to give us this task. We asked the people to give us a house in absolute disorder. We knew we were going to find corruption, depleted funds, and we knew we were going to find that we were all desperate and immersed in violence.

However we are willing to overcome all this. We will fulfill our duty responsibly. I trust you friends, leaders, labor union and political leaders, but I expecially trust the people of Guatemala, because the people of Guatemala, the president, and the government united, will get on the path we promised to find. Later, my ministries will give you the details of what I am telling you now. They have a task to fulfill and they will fulfill it, because that is my responsibility.

However, most important of all is that the people and the president remain united and continue to trust the future and our capacity, because together we will push Guatemala ahead.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON DOWNED PLANE

PA110446 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 0406 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 10 March]

[Text] The Honduran Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate reports to the national and international public:

The investigation carried out by the Honduran Armed Forces at the site where the plane that violated the national airspace on Monday, 9 March, crashed -- the plane ignored instructions to identify itself or head for a nearby national airport -- has disclosed that such an aircraft was shot down by Honduran Air Force fighters. The following conclusions have been reached:

1. The aircraft entered Honduras from Nicaraguan airspace. The plane, a DC-3 crashed in El Palmital, El Portillo, Guarita municipality, Lempira Department, on the border with El Salvador.

2. The plane bore the U.S. registration number N49454, but another registration number HK-313, was found inside which corresponds to a Colombian-registered aircraft.

3. Because of the area's rugged location, the plane was totally destroyed by the crash and ensuing fire, which consumed it almost entirely.

4. Human remains were scattered near the plane's crash site. It has been impossible to identify them. It can be presumed, however, that three people were in the plane. It was only possible to find a portion of an I.D. card of pilot Joseph Bernard Mason, a U.S. citizen, private and commercial pilot. His pilot's licenses had been issued in Panama and the United States.

5. No cargo of any kind was found. It is presumed, however, that the cargo was jettisoned at the time the plane was intercepted.

6. The plane's course was similar to that of another aircraft that, a few months ago, followed instructions and was guided to Goloson International Airport at La Ceiba, Atlantida Department. A large quantity of drugs was confiscated from this particular plane.

7. The bodies of the crew members were placed at the morgue for the coroner's examination and also in an effort to identify the bodies.

8. This again confirms the illegal use of the national airspace by drug traffickers and the Honduran Armed Forces' increased vigilance to combat this terrible scourge.

Tegucigalpa, 10 March 1987 [signed] Honduran Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate

Drug Trafficker Possibly Aboard

PA111348 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1245 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] [Announcer] We have been talking with our colleagues from Colombia's Radio Cadena Nacional, RCN, and they are very interested in the reports about the plane downed by Honduran Air Force fighter planes. Here are our RCN colleagues. What is being said in Bogota about this plane that was downed in Honduran territory?

[Begin relay] [Reporter] Good morning, Radio America listeners. Well, the version here is that an important member of the Medellin cartel was traveling aboard the airplane downed by fighter planes in Honduran territory. It is believed that one of those aboard was Pablo Escobar, one of the most wanted men in the United States.

[Announcer] In other words, this individual identified as an important Colombian drug trafficker might have been traveling in the downed plane?

[Reporter] That is the supposition regarding this incident, but this has not been confirmed. We are waiting for a report from the Honduran authorities on the identification of the passengers in the aircraft. [passage omitted] [end relay]

SHOOTING REPORTED AT NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA102241 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2219 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The Honduran Armed Forces' chief of public relations has said that the situation at the border with Nicaragua is still critical because the Nicaraguan and Honduran forces are firing at each other.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] For the time being, we can only say that Nicaraguan forces are firing at (?Honduran) territory. This, however, is occurring only at the [words indistinct] sector [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Armed Forces Report Attacks

PA110443 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 10 Mar 87 p 9

[Text] The Armed Forces Public Relations Office has reported an attack by EPS troops against three Honduran towns, which did not result in any civilian or military casualties.

The communities of El Ojoche, Palo Verde and Tiguilote, in El Paraiso Department were attacked by Sandinist forces on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights with small arms fire and mortars.

According to the official report, those attacks have been the fiercest of the past few weeks, during which there has been relative calm, as the incidents had not been as severe as in recent days.

The Honduran Army is guarding the eastern region with permanent posts and patrols that cover the area, and they have not reported any abnormal situations.

Residents Report Attacks

PA111230 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Choluteca -- Since Thursday, Sandinist soldiers have been harassing civilians and soldiers in the Honduran town of Palo Verde jurisdiction of the El Triunfo municipality in this department, with rifles. On Saturday the attacks increased in intensity, forcing our Army to repel the attackers with a heavy round of fire that made them stop shooting and flee to Nicaraguan territory. The attack lasted 4 hours with heavy artillery fire on the part of our Army. Twenty-two Nicaraguan soldiers were killed and several wounded. The dead were buried in common graves in great haste, in the (El Guatal) hamlet, Somotillo jurisdiction.

Our Army suffered no casualties, and everything is quiet and under military control. Since an artillery attack is expected from Nicaragua, forces have been deployed to the areas mentioned, and the Honduran Army mobilized heavy equipment and troops yesterday as a preventive security measure. Area residents, especially on the border, from San Marcos de Colon, Concepcion de Maria, El Triunfo, and up to the mouth of the Negro River have been threatened and are expecting a fatal end to these incidents.

Government Denies Attacks

PA110426 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 0358 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat has denied that yesterday Honduran troops fired with heavy artillery at a town in the Nicaraguan Department of Chinandega.

The Nicaraguan Government strongly protested an alleged attack with 120-mm artillery against a town located 5 km from Somotillo, bordering Honduras, which resulted in three civilians killed and several wounded, including a Sandinist soldier.

Nicaragua also reported yesterday that another town was attacked last week from Honduran territory with 81-mm artillery.

Eugenio Castro, spokesman of the Honduran Foreign Secretariat's Press Office in Tegucigalpa, said: It is false that the Honduran Army has attacked Nicaraguan towns.

Castro added that Honduras is constantly subject to attacks and incursions into its territory by Sandinist troops.

This morning, Nicaraguan Ambassador to Tegucigalpa Danilo Abud Vivas delivered his government's protest on the alleged attack carried out yesterday near Somotillo.

Meanwhile, Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides, the chief of the Armed Forces Press Office, reported that the situation at the border between the two countries has again become tense due to recent Sandinist incursions. The Honduran communities of El Ojoche, Pao Verde, and Tiguilote, in the Eastern El Paraiso Department, were attacked on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, he said.

The Sandinists attacked with small-arms fire and heavy mortar fire, Suarez Benavides added.

U.S. 'LEFTIST SPIES' ARRESTED AT EL AGUACATE

PA102145 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2115 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Report by Omar Mejia]

[Text] Three U.S. citizens were arrested last Saturday at El Aguacate Air Base, a reliable source reported today. The three people were immediately taken to Tegucigalpa. Their names have not been released yet. Our source stated it has been confirmed that the arrested people are leftist spies who have infiltrated international institutions. Such is the case of the Honduran Ecology Association, where they were reportedly carrying out field work, but they were actually taking photographs of El Aguacate base, a restricted military area in Olancho Department.

It was stated that the Americans were investigated by the 16th Battalion. After it has been proven they are guilty of being connected with the Managua government as spies, they will be deported by the authorities and sent back to their place of origin. It was also said that this case is closely linked with the case of the Americans who were deported because they were protesting in front of the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa.

The authorities might investigate other foreigners who are working with state institutions, such as the International Ecology Association, to learn if they are fulfilling their tasks or working on other issues that undermine the security of the state.

In Olancho Department, several Americans have been seen taking photographs of planes or helicopters, presumably belonging to the Army or the contras, when they land.

ARMY ARRESTS KISAN LEADERS HERMAN, ARTOLA

PA102305 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Mar 87 p 4

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Two top leaders of the Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples (KISAN) have been captured by the authorities of the 5th Infantry Battalion, several sources reported yesterday.

Roger Herman and Adan Artola -- two of the three recently appointed KISAN directors -- were captured by the 5th Battalion with headquarters in Dursuna led by Lieutenant Colonel Erik Sanchez, it was reported.

Adan Artola is chief of the troops of the organization that includes the Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas Indians of the Atlantic side of Nicaragua. Roger Herman was the chief of the political commission.

However, a board of directors was recently organized by both KISAN officials and Wycliffe Diego as part of a reform of the group, which receives funds from the U.S. Government through the FDN.

KISAN has had permanent bases in Honduran territory and moves between Auas and Rus Rus as well as Awasbila, and claims to have 3,000 armed men.

However, the supporters of a movement led by Fagoth Muller that is opposed to the current KISAN leadership claims it has barely 500 men.

Although the report could not be confirmed, it was said that the causes for the arrest of Herman and Artola are due to the fact that they have not kept their promise of transferring all their people to fight inside Nicaragua.

According to the reports, the 5th Battalion authorities had given the contras a deadline to leave the La Mosquitia area after they received assistance from the $100 million approved by the U.S. Congress.

Last October, the rebels began receiving assistance from the first $60 million delivered to the FDN, but the KISAN people stayed in Honduran territory, not willing to risk putting all their troops in Nicaragua.

KISAN even closed their offices they had in Tegucigalpa, apparently due to the pressures exerted by the Honduran Government.

The pressures reportedly resulted from the constant clashes between the three groups of the armed resistance of the Nicaraguan Miskitos, led by Fagoth, Artola, and Brooklyn Rivera, that have even left many dead in the Honduran Mosquitia area.

KISAN was formed in September 1985 after the Honduran authorities expelled Fagoth Muller and replaced MISURA [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas], an organization that is beginning to regroup with the fighters that have left KISAN.

It was impossible to obtain an official report from the Armed Forces on the arrest of the two "contra" leaders.

NICARAGUA

OWNERSHIP OF PLANE DOWNED IN HONDURAS DENIED

PA102041 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2017 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Here we have a dispatch from Tegucigalpa reporting about a Nicaraguan C-47 airplane. However, no C-47 Nicaraguan plane...[changes thought] the report mentions a plane downed in Honduran territory. The very few C-47 planes Nicaragua has are either grounded or flying between Managua and Puerto Cabezas.

We will have more information in a few minutes about these dispatches, in which even the counterrevolutionary groups deny that they have any airplanes of this kind.

FDN Denies Ownership

PA110053 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0022 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 10 Mar (FDN) [as received] -- This afternoon, the FDN reported that the airplane downed last night by the Honduran Air Force does not belong to the FDN.

Spokesmen for the anti-Sandinist group said that the organization owns one DC-3 airplane, which is used for transporting arms to their forces, and that this plane is presently in good condition, although they would not say where. [passage omitted]

UNO Ownership Denied

PA102018 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1941 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] San Jose, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Opposition Unity [UNO] directorate has denied in this capital that it owns a plane downed by the Honduran Air Force last night.

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios and Alfonso Robelo told ACAN-EFE that UNO and the FDN have no "C-47" planes of the type that was allegedly downed in Honduras.

Both UNO directors said that as of 1300 local time they had no information about the downing of the plane, but they said they were sure it did not belong to their organization. [passage omitted]

Analysts Cited on Downing

PA110405 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0312 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Things have become more interesting as political and military sources consulted this afternoon by La Voz de Nicaragua in various countries have said that there is a strong possibility that the plane belongs to the Salvadoran Air Force, which uses the initials FAS in operations for the contras.

According to the sources, the lack of coordination at one of the Honduran military levels caused the plane to overfly Tegucigalpa without any problems and to be downed approximately 300 km from the capital.

The analysts stressed that it cannot be ruled out that the plane may have been making its last supply flight for the contras, just as the plane operated by Hasenfus, which also departed from the Ilopango Military Base in El Salvador, with the approval of Colonel Bustillo, commander of the Salvadoran Air Force.

The Honduran High Command is not only delaying information at this time but has also invented difficulties in reaching the site of the incident. It also is not permitting phone calls to Honduras from abroad [statement as heard] and is trying to cover up another joint operation between the contras, Honduras, El Salvador, and the CIA.

Honduran Communique Cited

PA102337 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2235 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] We have a report from HRN La Voz de Honduras. Rene Cepeda reports from Honduras. Good afternoon, from La Voz de Nicaragua. We would like to know if you have any information on the plane downed in Honduran territory last night.

[Cepeda] This is the official communique issued by the Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate.

The Honduran Armed Forces Public Directorate reports to the national and international public opinon that:

1. On Monday, 9 March, at 2330, an unidentified plane violated Honduran airspace when it entered our national territory from the southeast. The plane flew over El Paraiso Department.

2. The mentioned plane flew over the southern zone of Tegucigalpa and then headed toward the Guatemalan border. The detection of the plane caused the Honduran Armed Forces to react by sending combat planes to -- following the procedures for this case -- identify the plane and order the crew to land. However, the plane's crew refused to identify themselves and tried to head to the Salvadoran border. Once peaceful methods had been exhausted and following warning shots, the unidentified plane was downed near Cucuyagua in Copan Department. It has been verified that the downed plane is similar to a Douglas C-47.

3. The Armed Forces are conducting an investigation at the site of the incident and the results will be reported to the Honduran people once the investigation has been concluded.

Tegucigalpa, 10 March 1987

[Signed] Public Relations Directorate, Honduran Armed Forces.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS HONDURAN ARMY 'ATTACK'

PA110210 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Foreign Ministry "protest note" sent to Honduran foreign minister; date not given -- read by information and press official Mercedes Borges]

[Text] Dear Minister: This is to report on the following serious incident. At 1530 on 9 March, coming from Honduran territory, the Honduran Army's 11th Infantry Battalion members again attacked Santo Tomas del Nance, 5 km north of Somotillo, Chinandega Department, with 120-mm mortar shells. As the result of this attack, Adan Varela Quiros, 20, a member of the Patriotic Military Service, was killed.

As Your Excellency will surely understand, events such as this do not contribute toward a climate of detente and trust so necessary for a harmonious coexistence between our two nations. Quite the opposite, such incidents lead to greater tension between the two countries and justify the Nicaraguan Government's action of resorting to the International Court of Justice to find a peaceful solution according to international law and to prevent the violation of the fundamental norms of this international law from causing a generalized armed conflict in the region.

While presenting its formal and vigorous protest, the Nicaraguan Government hereby voices its deep concern over these repeated attacks against Nicaraguan territory, which have been reported to you in due time.

In addition, the Nicaraguan Government hereby requests that the Honduran Government carry out an exhaustive investigation of this incident and proceed to punish the guilty parties.

Yours truly,

[Signed] Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco

2,000 People Evacuated

PA110427 Paris AFP in Spanish 0215 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Santo Tomas, 10 Mar (AFP) -- In the last few hours, approximately 2,000 Nicaraguans, including adults and children, abandoned the town of Santo Tomas del Nance in the border area with Honduras because of artillery attacks that the Honduran Army allegedly began 5 days ago.

Santo Tomas del Nance seemed like a deserted town today, and some of its houses displayed evidence of hits by 81- and 122-mm howitzers [as received], which according to Major Cesar Delgadillo, the EPS chief in that area, were fired by the Honduran Army's 11th Infantry Battalion.

Peasants evacuated the area after the artillery howitzers killed three young peasants and seriously wounded a member of the EPS border post guard on Wednesday.

Delgadillo said that during the last 5 days, Honduran troops have fired 113 mortar rounds, causing terror among the population.

Similarly, Delgadillo said that because the EPS cannot appoint a contingent of soldiers to protect the people, the inhabitants of Santo Tomas del Nance decided to move deeper into Nicaraguan territory.

Last night, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry protested to Jose Azcona's government about the artillery attacks and requested "an extensive investigation of those actions so those responsible for this illegal attack may be punished."

Major Delgadillo said that despite the attempts he has made in the last few days, it has been impossible for him to talk with the Honduran military chiefs over the radio to dissuade them from continuing their attacks."

The approximately 800-km border area between Nicaragua and Honduras has become a center of tension because of the presence of several thousand counterrevolutionaries who, according to various sources, are based in Honduran territory.

Similarly, Sandinists say that sectors of the Honduran Army, "encouraged by the United States," periodically carry out actions of harassment to increase tensions or cover anti-Sandinist guerrillas' movements.

In addition, Maj Delgadillo said that a group of Honduran soldiers entered Nicaraguan territory yesterday in the area known as Vado Ancho near Santo Tomas, but he did not report any clashes with the Sandinist troops.

OFFICIALS JUSTIFY POLICE ACTION DURING PROTEST

PA102003 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Ten people were released tonight after being arrested for attempting to carry out a political demonstration without the authorization of the Interior Ministry as established by the state of siege.

Approximately 200 members of the parties that comprise the right-wing Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board attended the mass held yesterday at the El Carmen Church to celebrate International Women's Day. When they attempted to hold a demonstration, the police prevented them because they had no permit from the authorities.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] [Words indistinct] political, and they have no permit to carry out this activity. In Nicaragua we respect everything; we do things according to law. [end recording]

Despite the warning, the policemen were forced to intervene when the group attempted to carry out the demonstration.

Three U.S. congressmen and several foreign reporters observed the events. Captain Nelva Blandon, chief of public relations at the Interior Ministry, explained the policemen's actions.

[Begin Blandon recording] It is important to explain the attitude of our policemen. They tried to make these citizens desist from altering public order. Nevertheless, the situation ended in the death of a policeman who was killed when he tried to make the people reconsider their actions. [end recording]

Tonight the detainees were released in the presence of representatives from the Coordination Board, who offered a news conference this afternoon for foreign reporters.

CRUZ ON REASONS FOR LEAVING UNO DIRECTORATE

PA101959 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Arturo Cruz left the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity [UNO] because he was convinced that the organization is an "exclusive clique" and lacks international credibility as a "democratic alternative" to the FSLN.

Cruz admits this in a communique issued today in this capital. In the communique he stated that he had ended his duties in the directorate of the most important "contra" group and announced that he will continue his struggle through Democratic Action, his political party.

Cruz was one of the three UNO leaders, together with Alfonso Robelo and Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. The latter was elected 2 weeks ago to replace Adolfo Calero.

The anti-Sandinist leader, former Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington, and former member of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction, stated in his communique that in 1985 he decided to join the UNO to gain international support for the "contras."

He recalled that 2 years ago the Nicaraguan resistance "was in a vacuum due to a lack of international democratic solidarity."

He added that as time passed he realized that the UNO was not a "pluralist structure" and in fact it seemed to him that it was an "exclusive clique."

Despite the efforts he admitted making "to change things," he could not improve the organization's credibility abroad "as a democratic alternative to the dictatorship. [no end quotation mark as received]

Within UNO, Arturo Cruz, regarded as the anti-Sandinist leader with the greatest prestige, was facing sectors controlled by Adolfo Calero, head of the FDN which is the largest armed "contra" group.

One of the charges Arturo Cruz made today about UNO as an "exclusive clique" was that it "had the habit of being intolerant and excluding others."

This nullifies "the work, tears, and bloodshed." He added that this "constitutes a very high price, if everything else remains the same."

One of the unsuccessful battles the former UNO leader waged was the importance he attributed to democratic reform in the UNO ruling branches. The leaders of some of these branches "barely represent their groups."

Cruz insisted in his public statement that "the free world will trust the rebel forces" as a liberation movement and not a "legion of conquerors" only if there is democratic pluralism.

UNO POSTPONES DISSOLUTION OF COALITION

PA100212 Paris AFP in Spanish 2240 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose 9 Mar (AFP) -- The assembly of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) has postponed the decision to dissolve that coalition to form a new anti-Sandinist alliance, which would incorporate social democratic leader Alfredo Cesar and Miskito leader Brooklyn Rivera.

After 2 days of discussions, the UNO assembly, formed by 28 delegates of 13 organizations, decided last night to form a five-member special commission which will analyze the various dissolution proposals or the expansion plans of the current contra alliance.

That commission should meet this week in a place that has not yet been determined with the three members of the UNO directorate: Arturo Cruz, Alfonso Robelo, and Pedro Joaquin Chamorro.

The first proposed amendment would expand the number of members of the UNO assembly (the discussion body) from 28 to 48 members and to also increase the number of organizations represented there.

Second, the expansion of the coalition's directorate from three to seven members will also be discussed. Last, the possibility of simply dissolving UNO to form a new alliance called the "Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance" [Resistencia Democratica Nicaraguense] will be discussed.

According to the announced proposals, the Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS), led by Alfredo Cesar, the former president of the Nicaraguan Central Bank, and the Miskito Misurasata [Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity], led by Brooklyn Rivera, would join the new anti-Sandinist coalition.

Porfirio Molina, one of the UNO assembly members, told AFP that "all those amendments have been well received," but he said that to obtain their final approval they will have to be discussed by the UNO directorate and the special commission appointed for that purpose and then be voted on in a new plenary assembly of delegates.

In addition, last night the UNO assembly elected businessman Marcelo Lacayo (30) as president of its new board of directors, which will function during the next 6 months.

Coco Zelaya de Rivas, representative of the Democratic Action Movement [Movimiento de Accion Democratica, MAD], the top leader of which is Arturo Cruz, was elected vice president of the board of directors.

The other members of the board of directors, which was reduced from nine to seven members, are: Daniel Bonilla of the Conservative Party, Carlos Martinez of the Labor Union Movement [Movimiento Sindical], Jaime Martinez of the Nicaraguan Democratic Union (UDN led by Fernando "El Negro" Chamorro), Donovan Brautighan of the Miskito ethnic groups, and Julio Ferrey of the Social Christian Party.

CONTRAS CLAIM 5 DOWNED HELICOPTERS IN 8 MONTHS

PA100444 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0327 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 8 Mar (DPA) -- The rebel FDN has asserted that it has shot down five helicopters and a Sandinist Air Force cargo airplane within 8 months, according to a summary of military activities.

A document of the most powerful anti-Sandinist group in the field indicates that they first shot down an MI-8 helicopter on 19 July 1986, killing the 22 passengers aboard the Soviet-made aircraft.

The rebels then shot down three MI-7 helicopters and one C-47 cargo airplane; and on 5 March they shot down the last helicopter. This time it was a fearsome MI-24, which is efficient in the antiguerrilla struggle, according to military experts.

The rebel groups have not been able to shoot down the Sandinist Air Force's most efficient helicopter, the MI-25, [as received] which Washington describes as "a flying tank" due to its efficiency and deadly firepower -- proved during the Soviet war against Afghan rebels.

The document also quotes Adolfo Calero, FDN leader and military commander, who said that they will continue to inflict more Sandinist casualties.

According to the document distributed by the FDN, they have been provided SAM-7 missiles -- also Soviet-made -- and this has made its anti-aircraft commandos more efficient and dangerous for the government in Managua.

Claim EPS Casualties

PA101538 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 4 Mar 87 p 11

[Text] "Fourteen Sandinistas were killed and three wounded as a result of an attack by insurgent forces on an EPS garrison located in the Rio Rama colony 5 km east of Coral in Zelaya Department."

This information was revealed in a press communique issued by the Nicaraguan rebels dated 2 March, from the mountains of Nicaragua, which states that the operation took place within the framework of the mission described as "Freedom Summer," [Verano Libertad].

The bulletin adds that among the casualties the following were identified: Juan Arguello Rugama, Ramon Jimenez, Gregorio Linares, Nicolas Martinez, Carlos Rodriguez, Virgilio Areas, and the chief of the garrison, Lieutenant Pastor Duarte Oporta.

The rebels seized a large amount of weapons, in addition to olive green suits and other materiel.

FERNANDO CARDENAL INTERVIEWED BY GDR JOURNALIST

AU100938 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 5 Mar 87 p 5

[Interview with Education Minister Fernando Cardenal, "reported from the records of Alfred Kohlbacher, who visited Cuba and Nicaragua as a member of an Austrian parliamentary delegation. The text was revised by Herbert Berger of the KRITISCHES CHRISTENTUM magazine"]

[Text] Question: What is the greatest success of the revolution in your country, in your opinion, and where do you see the greatest problems?

Answer: Among the young people, foundations have been laid for a "new man." Previously, one's professional career and the race for dollars were priority matters: for a car, for a house -- that is, for material things. But the people forgot everything that happened around them -- poverty, disease.

The "new people" are characterized by love for their fellowmen, by thinking of others, by love for the country's independence. In this respect, the best successes were achieved. In Europe I saw that young people had written on the walls: No future! And they did this although they have everything. A. Margentaino, a student leader, lost both hands when making a bomb for the struggle against Somoza; her sister was killed by Somoza's followers; her fiance was killed by the contras. After her victory in the student elections she said: Long live the future!

The most beautiful result to date is that our youth believes in the future. I told American journalists that Nicaragua is the richest country in the world because we have these young people! They are worth more than crude oil, than uranium....

There have been failures: We have not been able to develop the economy; we simply did not have enough knowledge. Because we knew too little, we made mistakes. But we were also not permitted to develop the economy.

Question: How is the development toward the "new man" ensured?

Answer: This is connected with overall events, with the process of development. In every society there are small groups pledged to the ideal of the "new man." The problem is that this ideal must also be accepted by the masses. As a Jesuit priest, I have always tried to convey this new ethic principle to the youth. I was not successful. Then came the revolution -- and 60,000 young people went out into the mountains and forests in order to make the rural population literate, and they did this voluntarily.

We do not yet have the "new man" but many are following the path toward this goal; some have progressed more, some less. This path can be continued only if the overall social process continues. Everyone was interested in the literary campaign: old people and young people, peasants, people in the towns, women, and men. But only the young people were able to go into the mountains for 5 months.

Question: Social development without economic development is impossible. What are the most important goals of economic development?

Answer: The economy of survival -- that is, to produce in order to be able to: first, survive; second, defend ourselves; and third, sell to get foreign exchange for imports. Life at least on a low level must be ensured. In this, agricultural projects have absolute priority: staple fooods for all, as well as coffee, cotton, and bananas for export. Today we cannot make any investments for the future. We must prepare for the last stage, for a war economy and for survival, in case the United States decides to intervene directly.

Question: I would be glad if politicians in other countries could also speak of their youth in such a way. But does the military and economic situation not endanger youth's idealism?

Answer: This danger is real. But it is also true that the more we are beaten, the more determined the people become. I am not a prophet, a 10-year war could lead to moral wear and tear. We are only 3 million people, we do not have a Navy or an Air Force, but the people want to oppose intervention, even though they know that thousands will die. A general in the Pentagon recently said that the victory of the contras will not be easy, but that they will certainly be victorious. The general does not know our people, he does not understand our revolution. Let us, for instance, look at El Salvador. There the military has the highest support of the United States and, nevertheless, the army is not able to win. In Guatemala, people are killed in masses and still, the people are fighting on.

ATTEMPTED AIRPLANE HIJACKING TO U.S. THWARTED

FL111255 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Announcer-read report over video showing interior and exterior of airplane; no people are shown in the video]

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry last night reported the attempted hijacking of Cubana Airlines Flight 706 at the moment of its scheduled departure from Rancho Boyeros Airport to Nueva Gerona, Isle of Youth. The hijacking was thwarted by the valiant intervention of the airplane's passengers.

According to initial investigations, citizen Juan Carlos Jimenez Gonzalez -- an antisocial element with a criminal history -- confronted the crew with hand grenades in an attempt to hijack the airplane to the United States. The criminal attempt met with the decisive opposition of the plane's passengers and crew.

Upon seeing the failure of his action, the hijacker detonated a hand grenade, injuring 13 passengers, including a 5-year-old child.

During the action, a member of the National Revolutionary Police, who was one of the passengers, shot and killed Jimenez Gonzalez.

There were 24 people aboard the An-24 airplane, including 2 children.

The firm action of the passengers and crew once again demonstrates our people's invariable principle not to allow and resolutely confront, at whatever cost, any attempt at blackmail and use of force by (?Cuba's) enemies.

A complete report will be released when the investigation is completed. [passage omitted]

GOVERNMENT 'CONFIDENT' ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION

FL100144 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cuba is confident that Latin America will not yield to U.S. maneuvers and pressures to approve an anti-Cuban resolution at the UN meeting on human rights being held in Geneva. This was reported to the Spanish news agency EFE by Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Raul Roa Kouri. The Cuban official did not rule out the possibility the U.S. delegation may withdraw its draft in anticipation of defeat.

COMMENTATORS SAY HUMAN RIGHTS 'VIOLATED' IN U.S.

PA100414 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 87

["Topics" feature with commentators Elena Nunez, Nestor Nunez, and Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] [Sanmartino] Dear listeners, greetings from Havana. Human rights and the debate on them in Geneva will be analyzed today.

[N. Nunez] The human rights situation is currently the subject of great debate in Geneva because the United States is bent on approving a document that tries to involve Cuba in the alleged violation of human rights. First of all, I would like to refer to some of these rights, because sometimes the discussions are centered on such aspects as whether there are political prisoners or other types of repression. However, there are a number of human rights included in the UN Charter that are systematically violated in the capitalist countries. They are part of daily life, and, perhaps precisely because they are violated daily, they might go unnoticed. They are basic rights such as the right to housing, which is a right every human being has in accordance with the UN declaration in this regard.

It must be stated that even though in Cuba all the housing problems have not been resolved, very serious efforts are being made to resolve this situation, which has worsened in other countries. For example, in the last 5-year period Cuba built approximately 335,000 new houses throughout the country -- in addition to the facilities given to the citizens for purchasing construction material -- to resolve this problem. In Cuba, rent represents between 6 to 10 percent of the head of the household's salary, while in other countries it represents between 50 to 60 percent of the family budget. I would like to point out that, for example, in the United States -- which is the leader, the standard-bearer of a proposal against Cuba in Geneva -- during Reagan's term, for example, housing construction has decreased almost 5 percent. In that country, which boasts of being an economic power, 3 million are homeless. In Britain that figure is more than 170,000, and in the FRG, another ally of Washington and an industrialist country, there are more than 500,000 without housing.

[Sanmartino] Nestor, isn't the right to work also a human right?

[N. Nunez] That is right, there is the right to work.

[Sanmartino] I ask this because I was hearing a moment ago that in Honduras 41 percent of the population is unemployed. It would also be interesting to discuss this as this right is violated in almost all countries. Unemployment is one of the factors that greatly encourages social discontent in various countries, and not only in Latin America, right?

[E. Nunez] Of course, Amalia. For example, in Western Europe and the United States there are high unemployment rates. For example, in France there are 3 million unemployed.

In most of these countries, the official number of unemployed is much lower than the real number of unemployed because the official figure does not take into account, for example, the housewives who for some reason left their jobs and then want to return to work but cannot find jobs. The students who just graduated and cannot find employment are not taken into account either. That is why in the United States, for example, the official figure is approximately 10 million unemployed.

[N. Nunez] There is something that is linked to the topic of employment, and that is social security. In Cuba, approximately 1 million people, without counting their families, directly benefit from social security. In 1985, the budget for this sector was approximately $1 billion. In countries like the United States, however, to enjoy social security once he retires a worker has to contribute approximately 5 to 7 percent a month to a common fund. It is a common fund to which a worker is obliged to contribute money all his life so when he retires he will have something from which to live. This is because the social security budget is not really paid by the state, like in Cuba, but it is the result of the workers' own efforts.

We could mention other examples, like freedom of religion. A lot has been said about so-called religious persecution in Cuba. In Cuba... [changes thought] I think visitors to Cuba can ascertain that Catholic and Protestant churches operate here. In other words, there is absolute independence. The law bans -- even punishes -- any type of religious discrimination. The Constitution does not only establish the freedom of religion but also the possibility that the citizen may have a belief or not; in other words, you may be an atheist or a believer. However, there are many constitutions in the world where the state establishes an official religion and discriminates against the other believers.

[E. Nunez] I have a clear example of this. The Subcommittee for Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House of Representatives' Judiciary Committee recently met. Well, it was revealed during the meeting that the FBI has raided 58 offices, most belonging to organizations struggling for human rights in the United States, including churches. It was likewise ascertained that microphones were installed in confessionals and pressure was exerted on many priests who have helped immigrants without papers.

[N. Nunez] These are priests of the Sanctuary movement, which offers assistance to Central American refugees in that country.

[Sanmartino] Exactly. I think you have unwittingly brought up the subject I wanted to discuss by mentioning the persecution. You were talking about religious persecution, and I wanted to say something that should not be forgotten. Nestor, when we began you said you did not want to talk about the persecution of political opponents because enough has been said about this.

I think, however, we should not avoid mentioning this in our program today because, even though the subject of human rights has been abused by the United States, I remember the United States never protested about the indiscriminate persecution against all the political opponents during 7 years of military dictatorship in Argentina.

The persecution was even carried out against those who were not opponents, sometimes against complete families; some 35,000 were killed there, as everyone knows, and the United States did not lift a finger in Geneva or anywhere else. Anyway, everyone knows the U.S. Government is the main sponsor of one of the bloodiest wars right now: the war against Nicaragua, the war in Central America. I have some information here I would like to mention: All this armed conflict, particularly against Nicaragua, has already cost the lives of 33,000 people in Nicaragua -- this includes 1,100 children -- and material losses in excess of $2 billion. This is also a flagrant violation of human rights, but the United States is quiet about this, not only in Geneva but everywhere.

[E. Nunez] Look, for example, it was learned -- during the session I mentioned -- that between 1981 and 1984 the FBI infiltrated a man called Sam Carelli to serve as a contact between the FBI and the Salvadoran National Guard. Well, this man gave the Salvadoran Government all the names of the Salvadoran refugees who were deported from the United States. Of course, these people were murdered when they arrived in El Salvador.

You also mentioned that fewer houses have been built in the United States since Reagan assumed the Presidency. It is also true that the ethnic minorities' situation has considerably worsened in the United States since Ronald Reagan was sworn in. For example, last year the President vetoed a law that would have increased aid to Indian tribes and their organizations. He is also sponsoring policy to take away their land, particularly the Navajo tribe's land in Arizona, to facilitate the U.S. transnationals' investments in the area. The situation of blacks and Hispanics has worsened in the United States because of Reagan's extreme right-wing policy, above all the brutal budget cuts in social programs to benefit the rash arms buildup.

MALMIERCA GIVES CASTRO GREETINGS TO GUYANA'S HOYTE

FL100300 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Over 70 delegations are participating in the [words indistinct] at the Pegasus Hotel in the Guyanese capital. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, who is heading our country's delegation to the meeting, conveyed to Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte greetings from President Fidel Castro, which were reciprocated. The two sides agreed that a good number of delegations and foreign ministers were in attendance.

The Cuban foreign ministers also met individually with the foreign ministers of Nicaragua, Peru, Zimbabwe, and Ethiopia, and with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati.

URUGUAYAN DELEGATION SIGNS TRADE MEMORANDUM

FL101359 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A memorandum outlining the most outstanding aspects of the work carried out by the Uruguayan trade mission, which will depart today, was signed in Havana.

In accordance with the talks, Cuba will import Uruguayan canned meat, frozen poultry, and PVC compound, and a joint project is planned in 1987 between the Cuban and Uruguayan tobacco enterprises.

GHANAIAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

FL102143 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The 30th anniversary of Ghana's independence was commemorated last night at the Communist Party of Cuba Nico Lopez National School in Havana with an event that extolled the friendly relations between Ghana and Cuba.

Ghanaian Ambassador to Cuba Kojo Amoo-Gottfried recounted his people's struggle for independence on 6 March 1957, and he expressed his country's appreciation to Cuba for its solidarity. He said friendship between the two peoples will always grow.

PCC APPROVES NATIONAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

FL110218 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo has approved a national nutrition program, to promote an adequate diet for the people. The Minsap [Ministry of Public Health] is the program coordinator, but the Agriculture, Domestic Trade, and Foodstuff Industry Ministries play an important role. The national nutrition program will attempt to create good eating habits by encouraging the consumption of healthy foods and discouraging harmful ones. The experience of other countries shows that cancer and arteriosclerosis, main causes of death, can be prevented with an adequate diet.

'SEVERE' DROUGHT CONTINUES IN CAMAGUEY PROVINCE

FL110230 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The northern and central areas of Camaguey Province have faced a severe drought for over 2 years. This has mainly hurt the Camaguey cattle industry, which has over 1 million head of cattle. Over 1,000 water sources have dried up, and pasture and fodder have diminished greatly. [passage omitted]

ST LUCIA

TRADE UNIONS GIVE ULTIMATUM TO GOVERNMENT

FL101648 Bridgetown CANA in English GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, March 10, CANA -- Less than one month before general elections in St Lucia, the islands public service unions appear headed for confrontation with government over money owed to government workers. The St Lucia Committee of Trade Unions, bargaining agents for government employees, has given Labour Minister Clendon Mason an ultimatum of March 11 to resolve an outstanding pay dispute. The unions have been calling for the remaining 25 per cent of EC3 million dollars which government owes in back pay, government has said its 2 million dollar pay-out earlier this year was its final offer. The unions, in a reply to the labour minister, said they were surprised at the contents of his which indicated that he was studying a report from the labour commissioner on the dispute. The unions wrote: It should be clear by now that the payments made by government were (a) completely unilateral decision and not in keeping with the spirit in which the dscussions on the matter were being conducted. They said this being the case, and the matter having not been settled at the level of the labour commissioner, they failed to understand the need for such a long drawn-out study of the commissioners report.

We interpret this to be nothing but a delay strategy, they said. Noting that the matter had been before the labour minister for three weeks, the unions said they expected a positive response from him by Wednesday, March 11.

Failing this, we will be left with no alternative but to take whatever options are open to us within the industrial relations machinery as established by government, the unions stated.

Public service unions and the government have been at loggerheads for several months over the question of back pay arising out of the last wage agreement in 1984. The government at first said it could not meet the EC3 million dollars involved but under pressure from the unions subsequently made a series of offers for partial settlement, all of which were rejected by the unions. In December, the government made what it said was its final offer of 75 per cent and borrowed money from local commercial banks just before Christmas to begin payments. But the civil service association, one of the three unions which have been most vocal in demanding total settlement of the outstanding claim, said it was fighting the issue based on principle. Prime Minister John Compton has accused the unions of playing politics in a general election year. The CSA replied by saying it regretted that an industrial relations issue had been made a political one.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON NONALIGNED MEETING

Iran, Cuba Leaders Meet

LD101200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Iranian delegation led by [Deputy Foreign Minister] Besharati which has gone to Guyana to take part in the special session of Nonaligned Movement ministers yesterday met with Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca.

Central American issues and mutual relations were discussed during the meeting. Referring to the foreign debts of Latin American countries, Besharati said that the $400 billion debts of the countries in the region was a colonialist plan. He expressed hope that the efforts of the Contadora Group will establish true peace in Central America. Finally, Besharati renewed [Foreign Minister] Velayati's invitation to the Cuban foreign minister to visit Iran. In reply, while expressing satisfaction about mutual relations and accepting Velayati's invitation to visit Iran, Malmierca expressed the hope that he would be able to come to Iran during this Christian year. He also said: The role of U.S. imperialism and its aims in the world are perfectly clear to us. But it is also a fact that the victory of the Iranian nation over the monarchical regime has dealt the biggest blow to U.S. imperialism.

The Nonaligned Movement session will formally open today with a speech by the president of Guyana.

Hoyte Opens Conference 10 Mar

FL102117 Bridgetown CANA in English 2050 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 10, CANA -- Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte called today for the creation of a strong and unified Latin American region. He was speaking before representatives of more than 60 nations attending a ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM). Hoyte, opening the conference, said he wanted to see a Latin American region that combines the intellectual and material resources of the area to be used for the benefit of the peoples of the region. The Guyanese leader praised the NAM for its work in the region, saying it had played an important role in the area's development. Hoyte said the current meeting is timely and necessary to analyse and assess the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean and to find solutions to pressing problems. He called for flexibility for dealing with matters on the agenda pointing out that the solutions of yesterday may not be practical for tomorrow. The conference will discuss the debt crisis and Central America among other issues.

Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister Dr Witness Mangwende, who also spoke at the opening of the conference, said it was being held against the background of an unstable international situation. He cited the escalating nuclear arms race, apartheid in South Africa, destabilisation of Frontline African States and tension in the Middle East.

The Zimbabwe foreign minister called for unified action by Caribbean and Latin American states to deal with the debt problem, which currently stands at US400 billion dollars. Commodity prices, he noted, have collapsed, and terms of trade continue to be unfavourable to the countries of the developing world. On the matter of the arms race he reiterated a call for the two superpowers to reach agreement which he said is needed to complete eventual nuclear disarmament.

Further on Conference Opening

PA101747 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1656 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Georgetown, 10 Mar (EFE) -- With an appeal for solidarity, negotiated solutions to the Central American conflict, and joint action on the foreign debt problem, the special ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau began here today.

Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo addressed the delegates representing the Latin American and Caribbean countries. He stated that the region "must find its own solutions to the problems that hinder its development. Caputo added that the "national independence of the region is the fundamental condition to preserve our nations' sovereignty" and noted that this meeting, which ends on Sunday, 12 March, must serve to "reflect" on the difficulties faced by the region. "Solidarity is the path to find strategies that will make us less vulnerable," Caputo stated, noting that "Latin America is intent on seeking a joint strategy."

Witness Mangwende, his Zimbabwean counterpart who represents his country as president of the movement, called for a "united stand regarding the debt problem" totaling $380 billion in the hemisphere. Referring to Central America, Mangwende emphasized the importance of the Contadora peace process and said that the meeting must adopt "concrete actions" to give an impulse to this negotiating group. He said that other initiatives, such as the recent visit to the region by Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, and Joao Baena Soares, OAS secretary general, respectively, or the meeting of Central American presidents in Esquipulas (Guatemala) do not undermine Contadora's role but rather support it. He said that the dialogue necessary to achieve peace in Central America must also include the Salvadoran issue or the Malvinas Islands issue. In this sense, he urged Jose Napoleon Duarte's Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas to resume the La Palma dialogue and expressed his support for the Argentine demands to recover, through negotiations with the UK, its sovereignty over the islands. The Zimbabwean Foreign Minister also mentioned a "focus of colonization" on the hemisphere. He referred to Puerto Rico, and demanded the Puerto Rican people's right to "independence and self-determination," urging the United States "not to hinder" that right. Mangwende read a speech sent by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe in which he announces that USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan had sent him long letters to advise him of their position regarding the reduction of the "Euromissiles." According to the foreign minister, Mugabe answered the two letters stating that, regarding the relations between the two superpowers, "more than just an agreement on nuclear weapons" must be reached.

Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte, who as president of the host country officially inaugurated the meeting, said that the Contadora process "continues to be the real regional initiative to resolve" the Central American crisis. After mentioning the "great opportunity" this meeting offers, Hoyte said that the debt problem is "critical" and that the area countries have the "responsibility" to adopt joint policies that, through integration, will resolve this matter that also has political connotations. During the opening session a minute of silence was observed in honor of Samora Machel, former president of Mozambique who was killed in an airplane accident in October. Samora Machel's struggle against the South African segregationist regime was praised. With the official inauguration of the meeting, during which calls were made for Latin America to become a nuclear-free zone free and of foreign military bases, the delegations began their task of drafting a final communique that will express the position of all those attending.

AGREEMENT ON EDUCATION SIGNED WITH USSR

FL102036 Bridgetown CANA in English 1810 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, March 10, CANA -- Suriname and the Soviet Union have signed a cooperation agreement on education. The programme, which will be effective for three years, was signed by Suriname's Education Minister Allan Li Fo Sjoe and the Soviet ambassador to Suriname Igor Bubnov. The programme is the product of a cultural treaty which was signed between the two countries since 1981. The agreement provides for exchanges of artists and offers of scholarships to Surinamese to study in the Soviet Union. The programme also caters for cooperation between the Anton de Kom University of Suriname and a university in Moscow.

HEIDWEILER SEEKS TALKS WITH NETHERLANDS MINISTER

PM101637 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 6 Mar 87 p 1

[Willem Offenberg dispatch: "Heidweiler: Troubled Relations Should Be Quickly Restored"]

[Text] Geneva, 6 Mar -- Henk Heidweiler, chef de cabinet of Surinamese Army leader Desi Bouterse, has urged in an open letter to Foreign Minister van den Broek that they should meet "like wise and courageous men" to seek a way out of the troubled relations between the Netherlands and Suriname. In his speech today to the UN Human Rights Commission Heidweiler also adopted a conciliatory tone.

By midday there had been no response to Heidweiler's attempts to establish contact with Minister van den Broek, although he had held detailed talks about such contacts with Netherlands UN Ambassador in Geneva Dr Robert van Schaik.

Heidweiler reminded Van den Broek of the latter's statement a few years ago when Heidweiler was still Surinamese ambassador to The Hague: "Goodwill alone is not enough; structures must also be improved" before the Netherlands restores relations with Suriname. Heidweiler reiterated that before the end of this month a constitution will have been drafted that will be put to the people in a referendum before the end of September, and then free, secret, and general elections will follow within a year. Heidweiler said that there is abundant hope that "we will soon be friends again."

In his speech to the United Nations Heidweiler promised every cooperation for UN special investigator Amos Wako, who will carry out an investigation into summary executions in Suriname. He ascribed the poisoned atmosphere between the two countries among other things to Suriname's oversensitivity, "an attitude that has its roots in a dark colonial past."

On the other side Heidweiler accused the Netherlands of a lack of sensitivity and understanding. Heidweiler launched a tough attack on allegations of a Libyan military presence in Suriname. He called them "vulgar lies, on the pattern of Nazi Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels." Heidweiler also attacked French Guyana. This French territory has become a transit camp for terrorists and mercenaries, said Heidweiler, who praised the United States for the impartial way in which a group, chiefly of U.S. citizens, recruited as mercenaries in the Netherlands was arrested in New Orleans and brought to trial.

'MORE RADICAL FIGURES' COULD FILL CABINET POSTS

PM101241 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 3 Mar 87 p 7

[ANP report: "Suriname's Old Parties Not in New Cabinet"]

[Text] The Hague/Paramaribo, 3 Mar -- The "old" political parties in Suriname, the Progressive Reformed Party (VHP) and the Suriname National Party (NPS), must bear in mind that the ministerial posts which became vacant in a government crisis last month may not be refilled by people from their ranks, according to political circles in Paramaribo.

Informants in the Surinamese capital are assuming that more radical figures could be given posts in a new cabinet. Among the names being mentioned is that of Henk Herrenberg, the former foreign minister, whose resignation started the recent cabinet crisis. However, it is thought that he has not yet played out his role, and even his return as prime minister is not thought impossible. Other names come from the Progressive Workers' and Farm Laborers' Union (PALU), a small grouping of young radicals who studied at Wageningen. PALU gained influence after the 1982 December murders, but later disappeared from the stage.

Since the government crisis in which Prime Minister Radhakishun and four ministers resigned, three posts which had been filled by the "old" parties have been vacant. VHP leader Lachmon, who was on vacation during the crisis, has said that he regrets the events which surrounded the resignation of the premier and the other ministers. According to Lachmon "certain forces" wanted to cause a breach and also force the political parties to leave the Supreme Council. However, Lachmon declared that the parties will remain in the Supreme Council "until a different decision is reached." Even if the VHP and the NPS lose their ministerial posts, Lachmon wants the parties to remain in the Supreme Council, Suriname's highest political body.

Last week army leader Desi Bouterse spoke critically of the cooperation with the political parties, industry and commerce, and the trade unions. In a speech in a western district of Nickerie he said that "since these partners came together revolutionary elan has diminished somewhat."

"But now the historic moment has arrived to tackle our problems with courage and daring. And that without delay," the army commander added. "We can go no further with weaklings and doubters and it is therefore now more necessary than ever that the partners mobilize their strong young people to tackle this difficult work. They must be men or women who are not primarily interested in personal profit," Bouterse said.

SURALCO RESTORES ENERGY SUPPLY FROM AFOBAKA

FL101802 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday, Suralco [Suriname Aluminum Company] resumed a supply of energy from Afobaka. The energy company is now finalizing arrangements for the distribution of electricity from the hydropower station.

Last week, repair work on the three high-tension pylons were completed. The pylons were sabotaged by members of the Brunswijk Gang on February 25th last.